Friendly Reminders

- Be social with GSFC
  - Like/Follow us and find tips, resources, event information and much more about planning, preparing and paying for college
- Create a GAfutures account
  - Students can check their HOPE GPA and find out more information on eligibility for the HOPE and Zell Miller Scholarship

GAfutures.org
Explore. Plan. Succeed.

The FAFSA
Step-By-Step

GSFC | Georgia Student Finance Commission

GAfutures.org

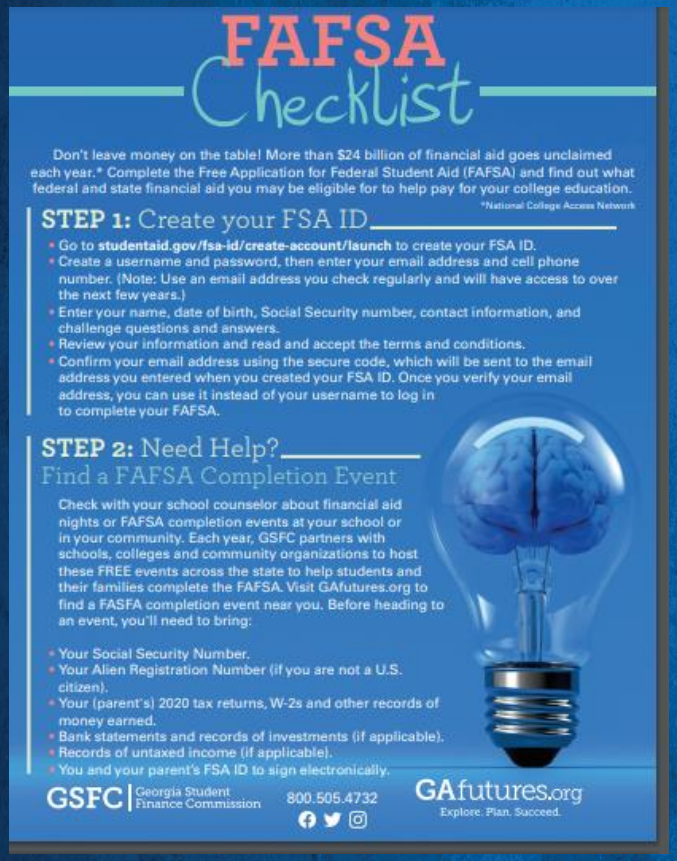
Explore. Plan. Succeed.

FREE Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

How to Get Federal Student Aid

- Be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen
- Be a high school graduate or GED recipient
- Be enrolled in an eligible degree/certificate program
- Have a valid Social Security number
- Maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress

FAFSA Checklist



FAFSA Checklist

Don't leave money on the table! More than $24 billion of financial aid goes unclaimed each year.* Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and find out what federal and state financial aid you may be eligible for to help pay for your college education.

*National College Access Network

STEP 1: Create your FSA ID

- Go to **studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account/launch** to create your FSA ID.
- Create a username and password, then enter your email address and cell phone number. (Note: Use an email address you check regularly and will have access to over the next few years.)
- Enter your name, date of birth, Social Security number, contact information, and challenge questions and answers.
- Review your information and read and accept the terms and conditions.
- Confirm your email address using the secure code, which will be sent to the email address you entered when you created your FSA ID. Once you verify your email address, you can use it instead of your username to log in to complete your FAFSA.

STEP 2: Need Help?

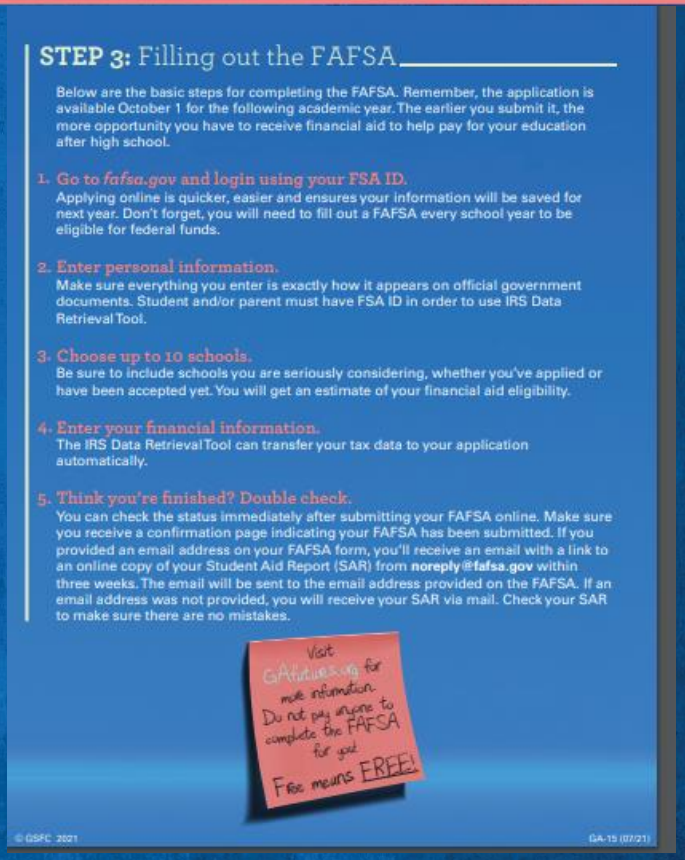
Find a FAFSA Completion Event

Check with your school counselor about financial aid nights or FAFSA completion events at your school or in your community. Each year, GSFC partners with schools, colleges and community organizations to host these FREE events across the state to help students and their families complete the FAFSA. Visit GAfutures.org to find a FASFA completion event near you. Before heading to an event, you'll need to bring:

- Your Social Security Number.
- Your Alien Registration Number (if you are not a U.S. citizen).
- Your (parent's) 2020 tax returns, W-2s and other records of money earned.
- Bank statements and records of investments (if applicable).
- Records of untaxed income (if applicable).
- You and your parent's FSA ID to sign electronically.

GSFC | Georgia Student Finance Commission 800.505.4732

GAfutures.org Explore. Plan. Succeed.



STEP 3: Filling out the FAFSA

Below are the basic steps for completing the FAFSA. Remember, the application is available October 1 for the following academic year. The earlier you submit it, the more opportunity you have to receive financial aid to help pay for your education after high school.

1. **Go to *fafsa.gov* and login using your FSA ID.**
   Applying online is quicker, easier and ensures your information will be saved for next year. Don't forget, you will need to fill out a FAFSA every school year to be eligible for federal funds.

2. **Enter personal information.**
   Make sure everything you enter is exactly how it appears on official government documents. Student and/or parent must have FSA ID in order to use IRS Data Retrieval Tool.

3. **Choose up to 10 schools.**
   Be sure to include schools you are seriously considering, whether you've applied or have been accepted yet. You will get an estimate of your financial aid eligibility.

4. **Enter your financial information.**
   The IRS Data Retrieval Tool can transfer your tax data to your application automatically.

5. **Think you're finished? Double check.**
   You can check the status immediately after submitting your FAFSA online. Make sure you receive a confirmation page indicating your FAFSA has been submitted. If you provided an email address on your FAFSA form, you'll receive an email with a link to an online copy of your Student Aid Report (SAR) from **noreply@fafsa.gov** within three weeks. The email will be sent to the email address provided on the FAFSA. If an email address was not provided, you will receive your SAR via mail. Check your SAR to make sure there are no mistakes.

Visit GAfutures.org for more information. Do not pay anyone to complete the FAFSA for you. Free means FREE!

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https://www.gafutures.org/media/h33fu40n/fafsa-checklist-2022_digital.pdf

When to Submit the FAFSA

FAFSA 2021-2022

If attending:

Fall 2021

Spring 2022

Summer 2022

Use 2019 tax returns

Available
October 1, 2020

FAFSA 2022 - 2023

If attending:

Fall 2022

Spring 2023

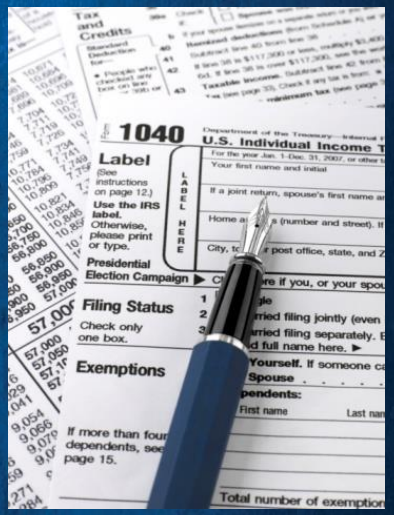
Summer 2023

Use 2020 tax returns

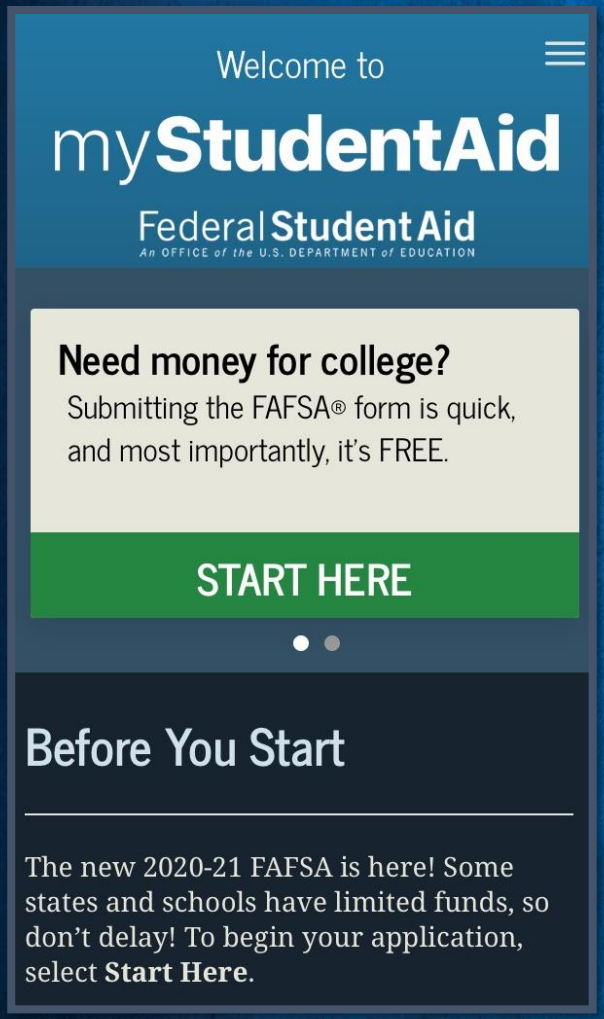
Available
October 1, 2021

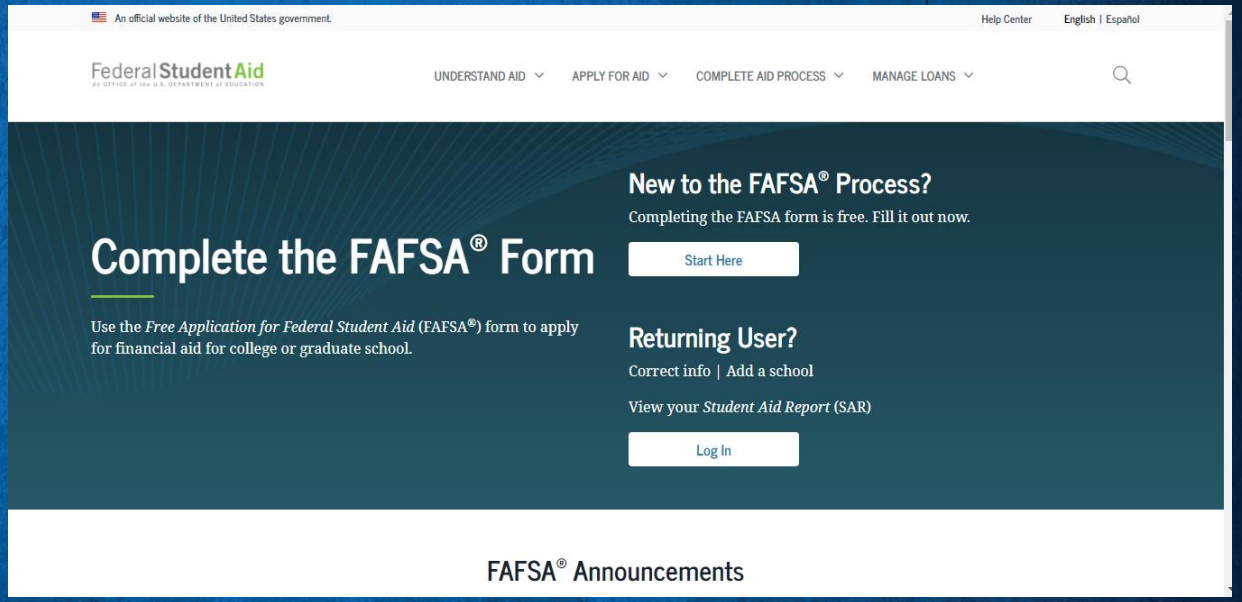
What Is Needed to Complete the FAFSA

- Social Security number *(Alien Registration Number, if not a U.S. citizen)*
- Federal income tax returns, W-2s and other records of money earned
- Bank statements and investment records *(if applicable)*
- Records of untaxed income *(if applicable)*
- An FSA ID to sign electronically

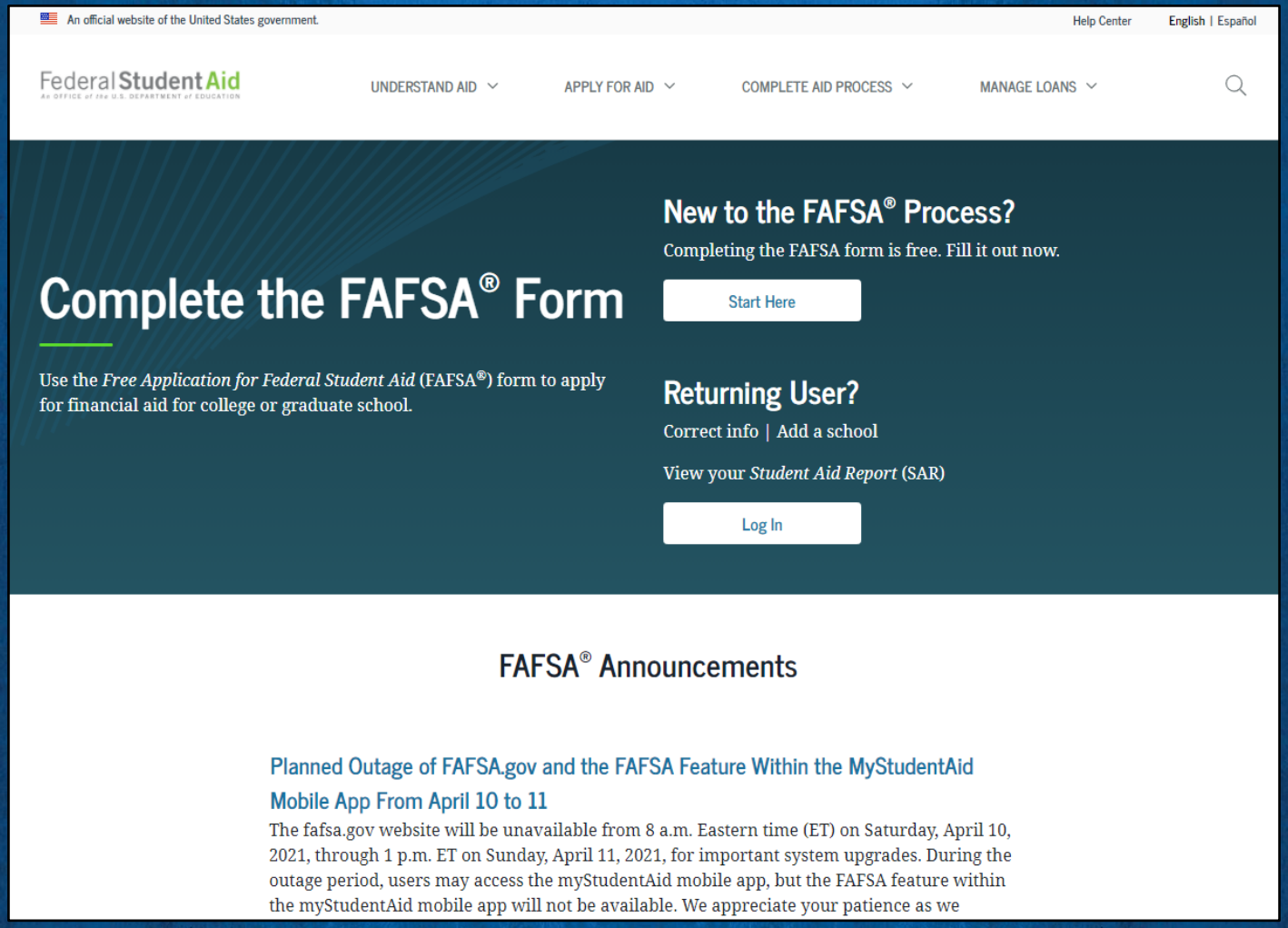


FAFSA Applications

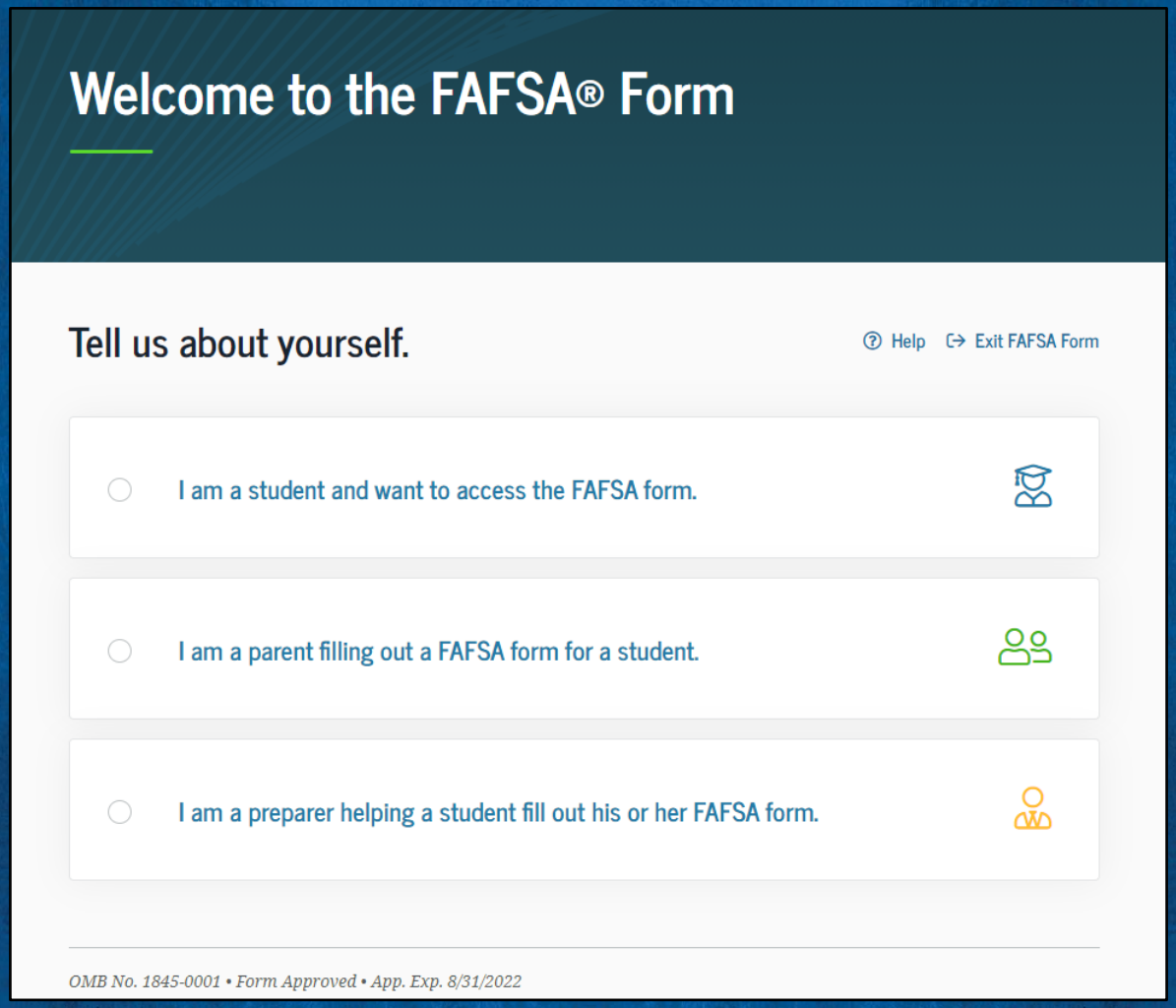




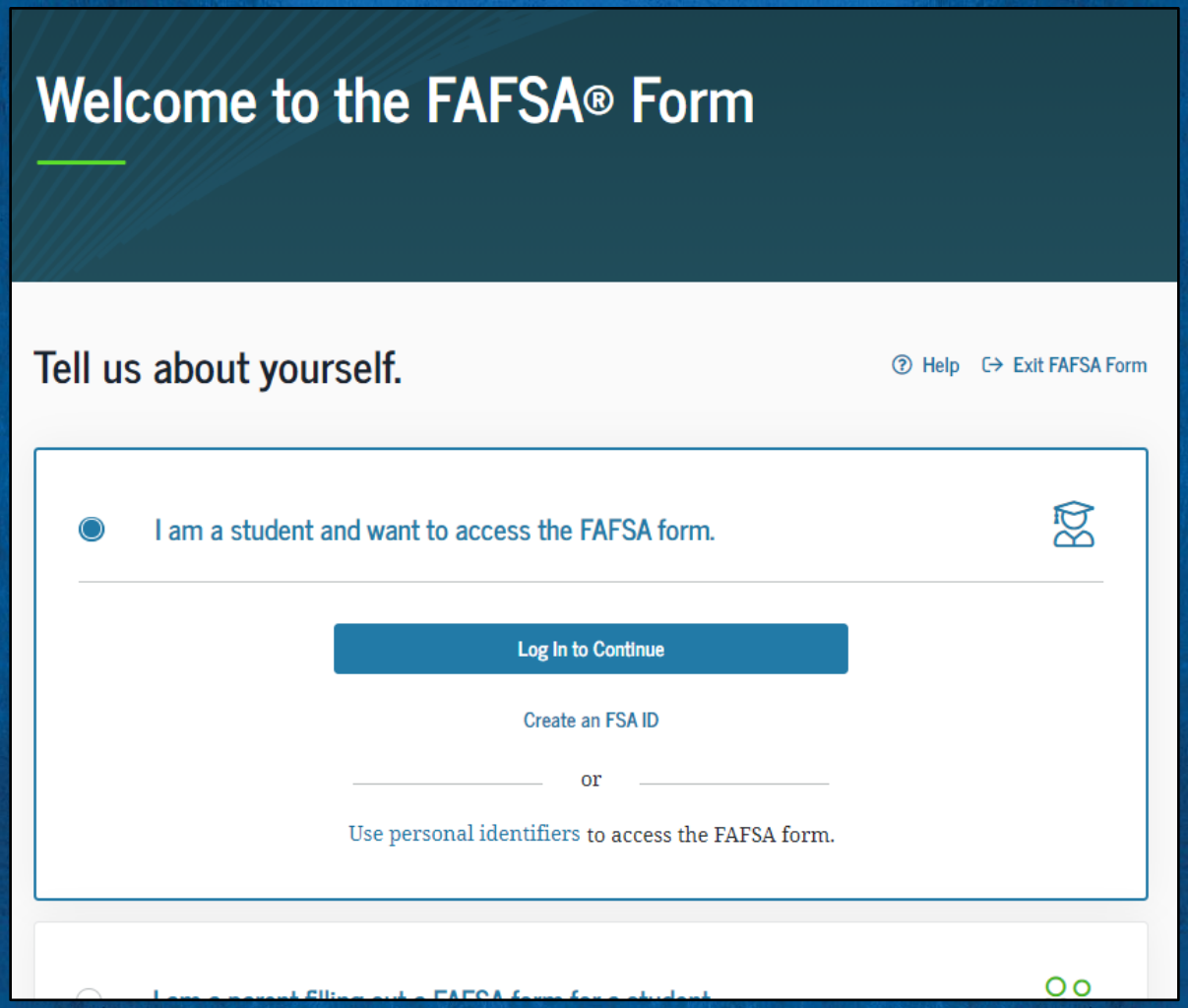
FAFSA Form Welcome Page



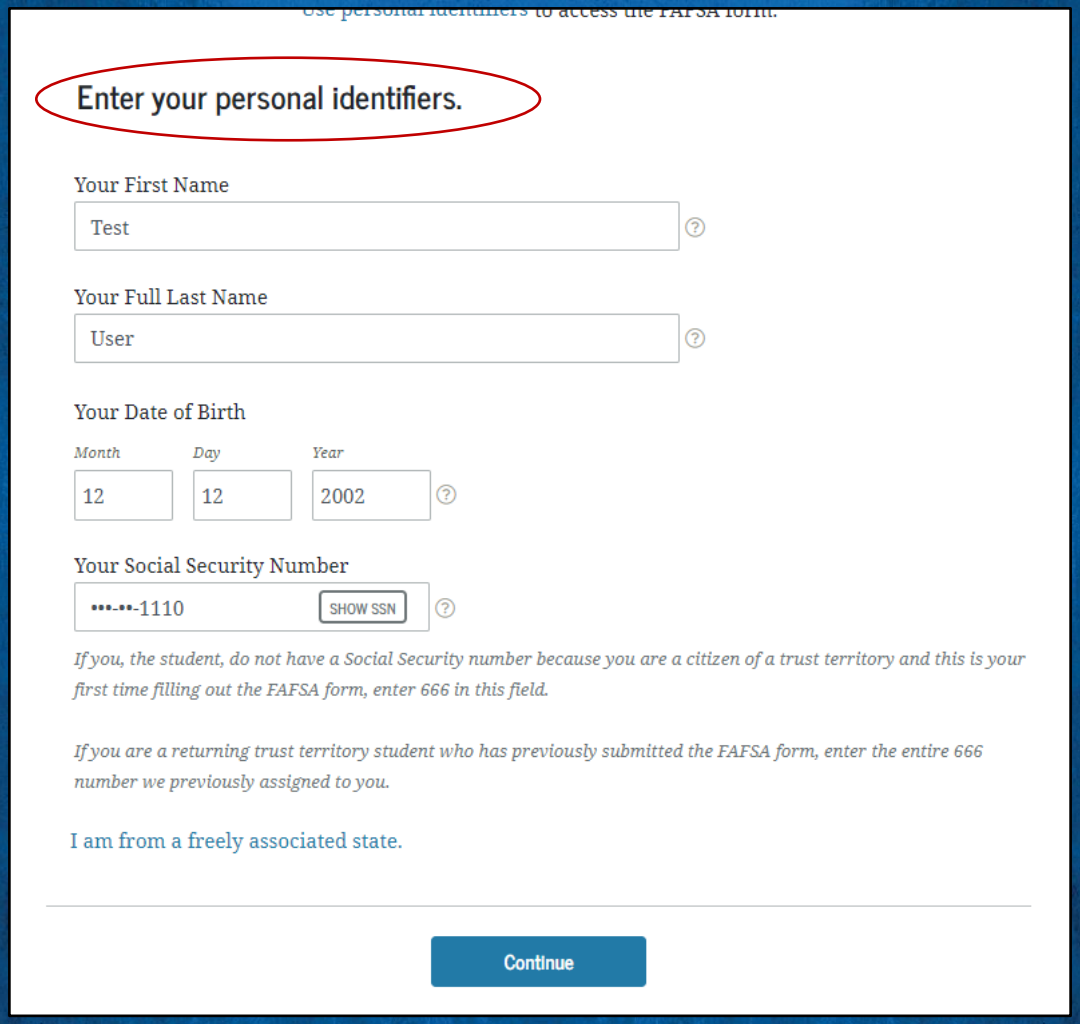
Role Selection



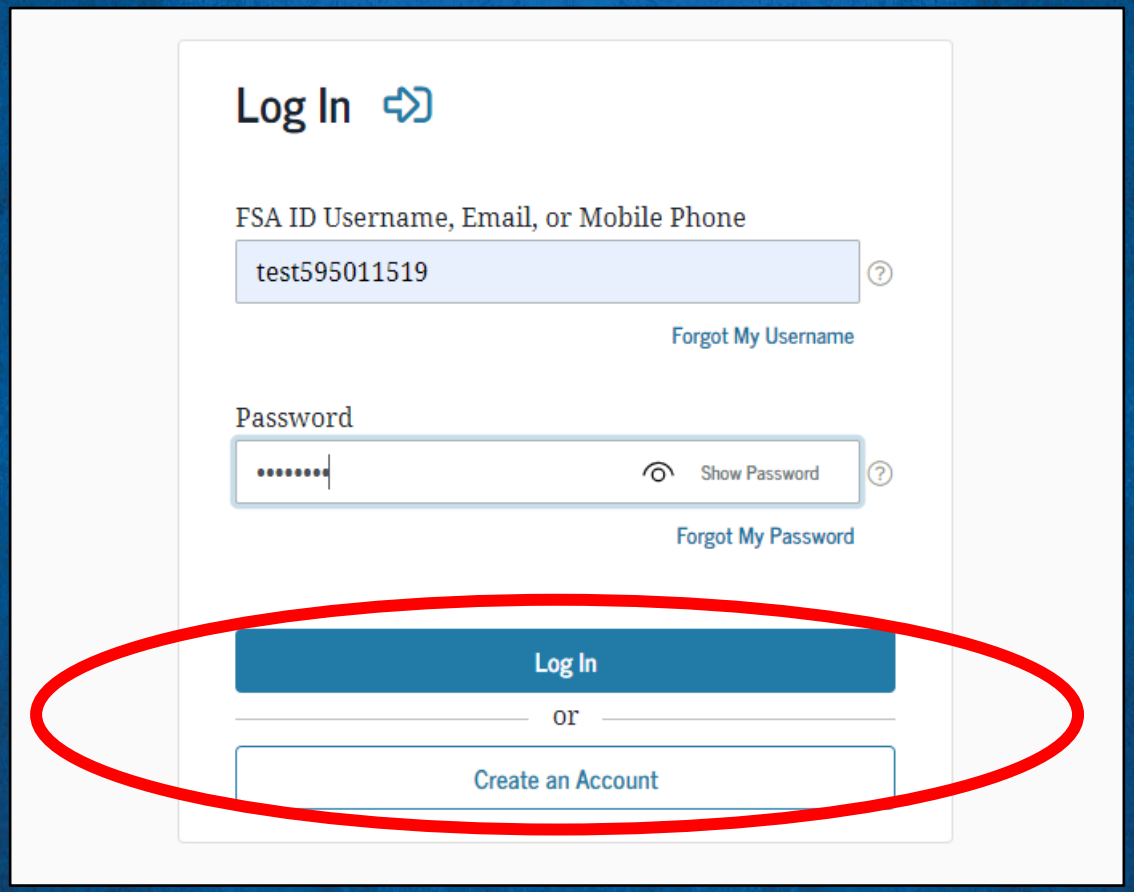
Role Selection - Dependent



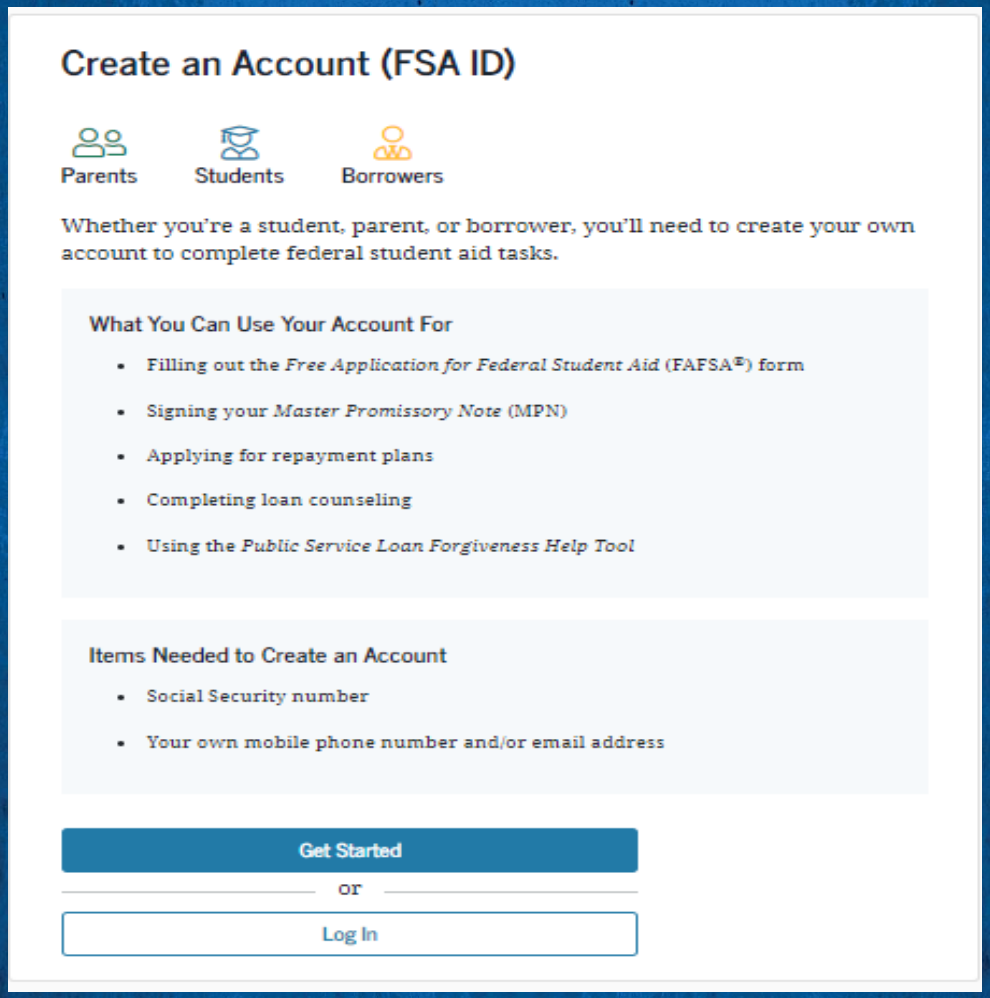
Role Selection



Log In Page


Log In
FSA ID Username, Email, or Mobile Phone
test595011519
Forgot My Username
Password
Show Password
Forgot My Password
Log In
or
Create an Account

Create an FSA ID



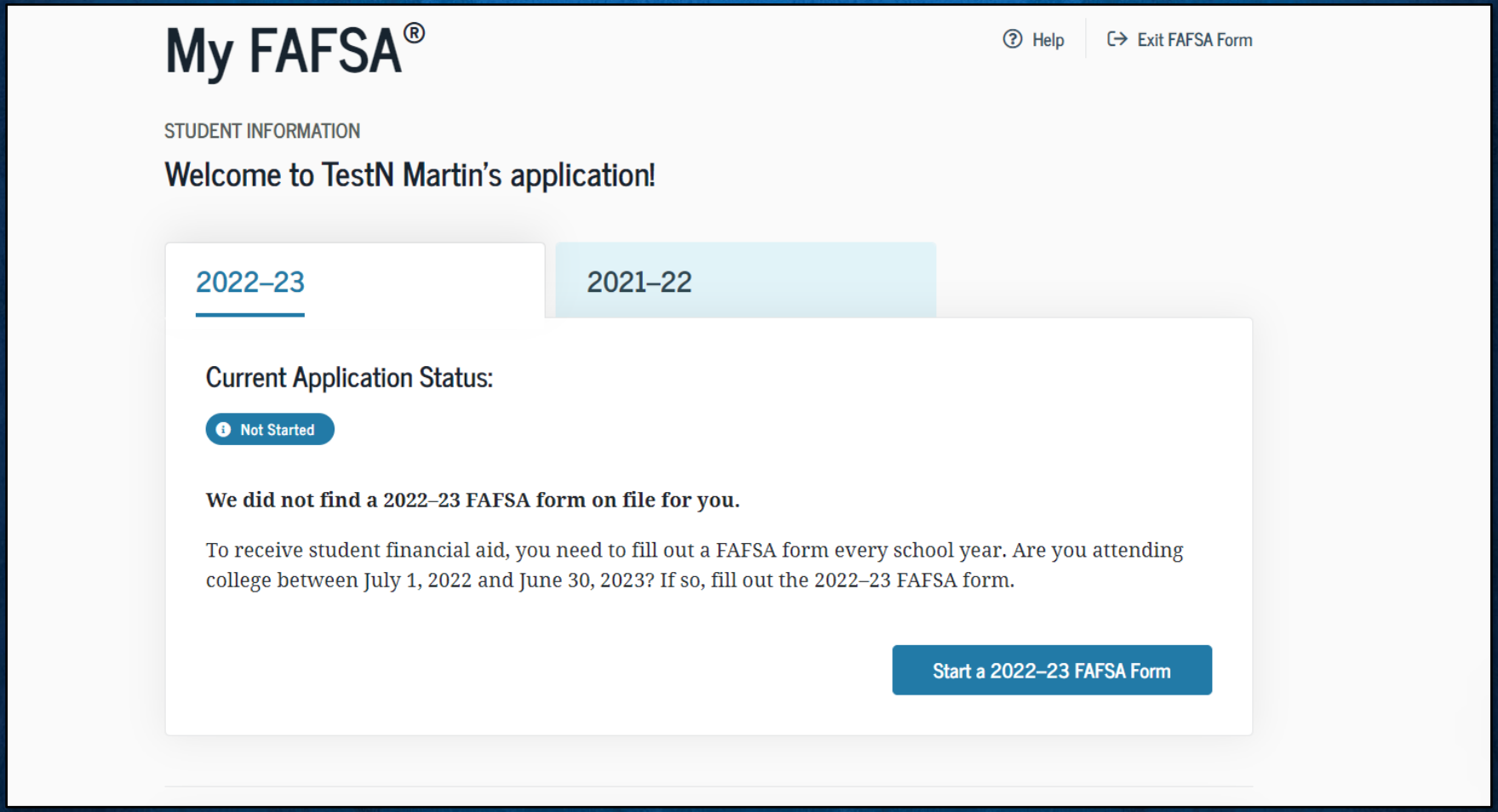
Steps to Creating an FSA ID

- Go to the FAFSA log in page and click the link to create an FSA ID
- Create a username and password, and enter email
- Enter demographic information and select challenge questions and answers
- Review information and read and accept the terms and conditions
- Confirm cell number and email address by using the secure code
- For additional help, visit StudentAid.gov

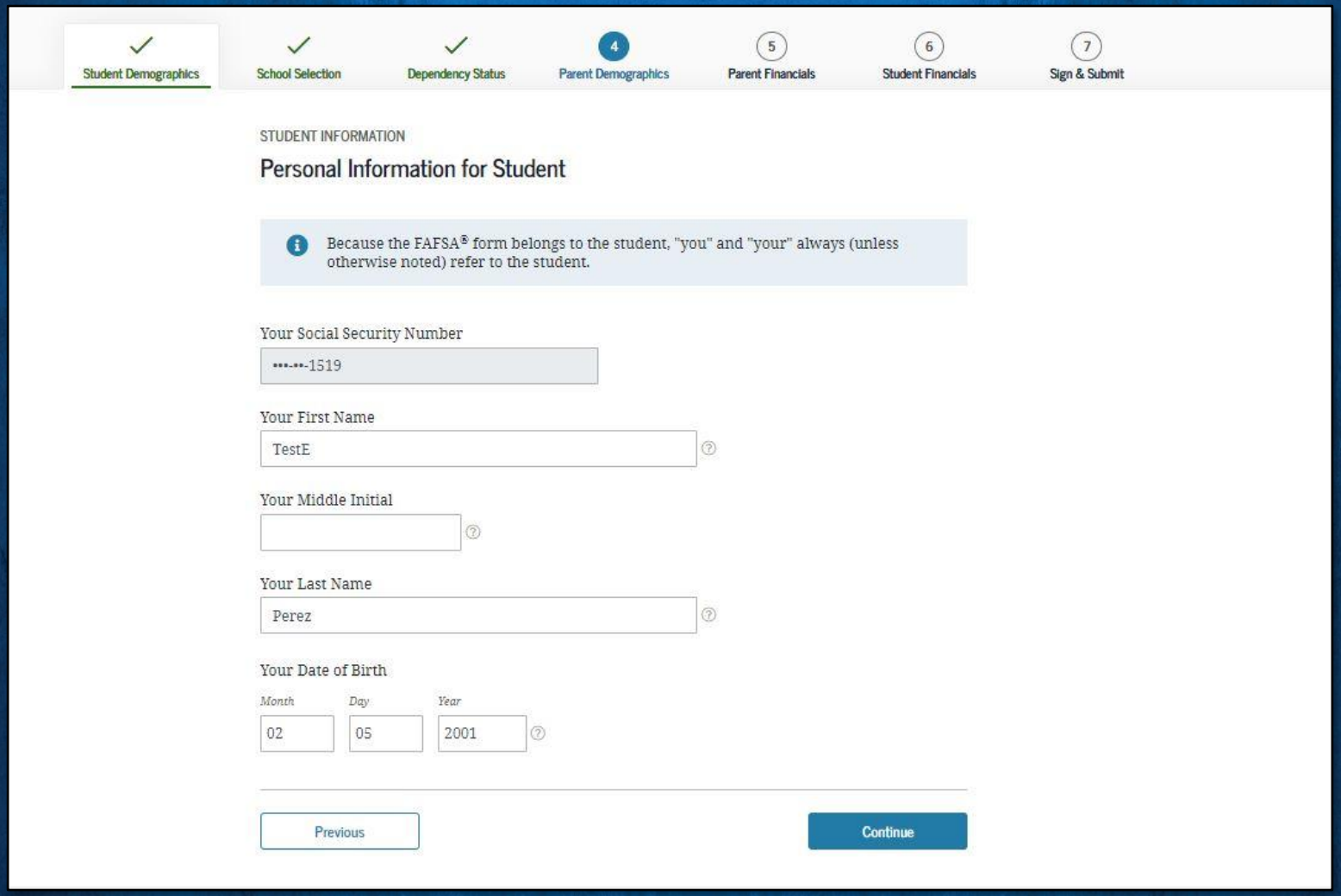
FSA ID Tips

- Create your own FSA ID
- Never share FSA ID
- Keep and remember FSA ID
- Use FSA ID each year to fill out FAFSA and for lifetime of any loans
- Parents may need to create FSA ID as well
- Email address can be associated with only one FSA ID

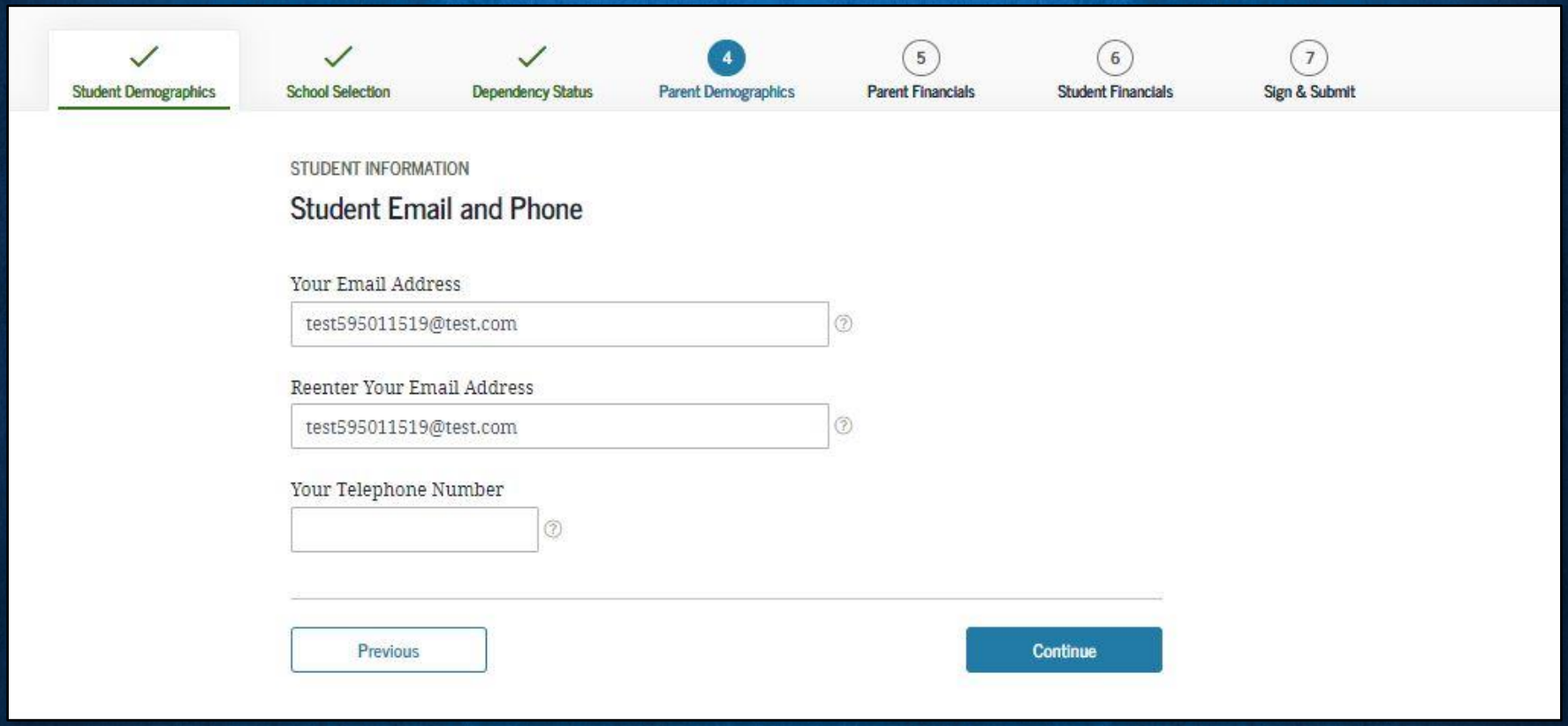
Start a 2022-2023 FAFSA



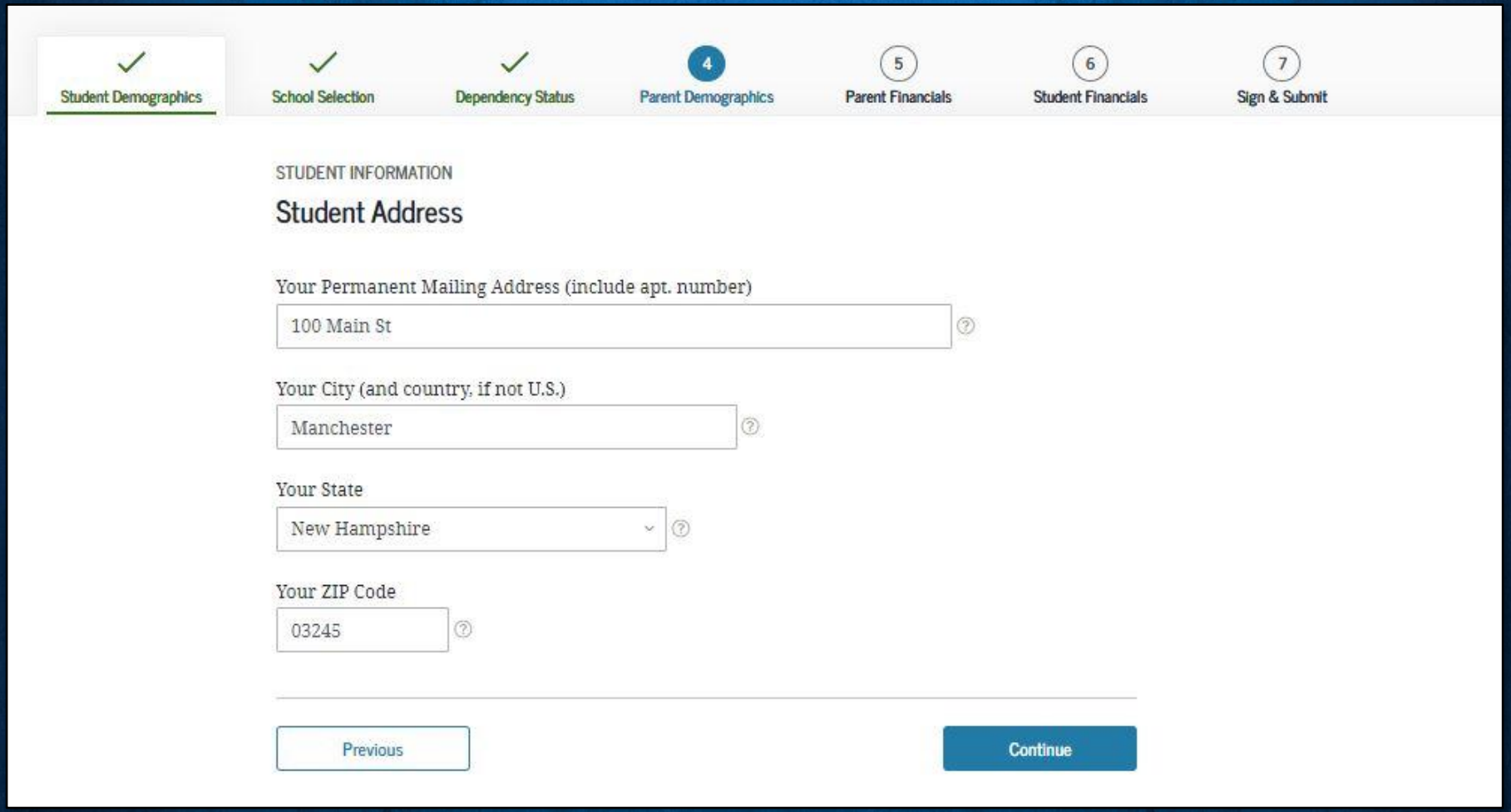
Personal Information For Student



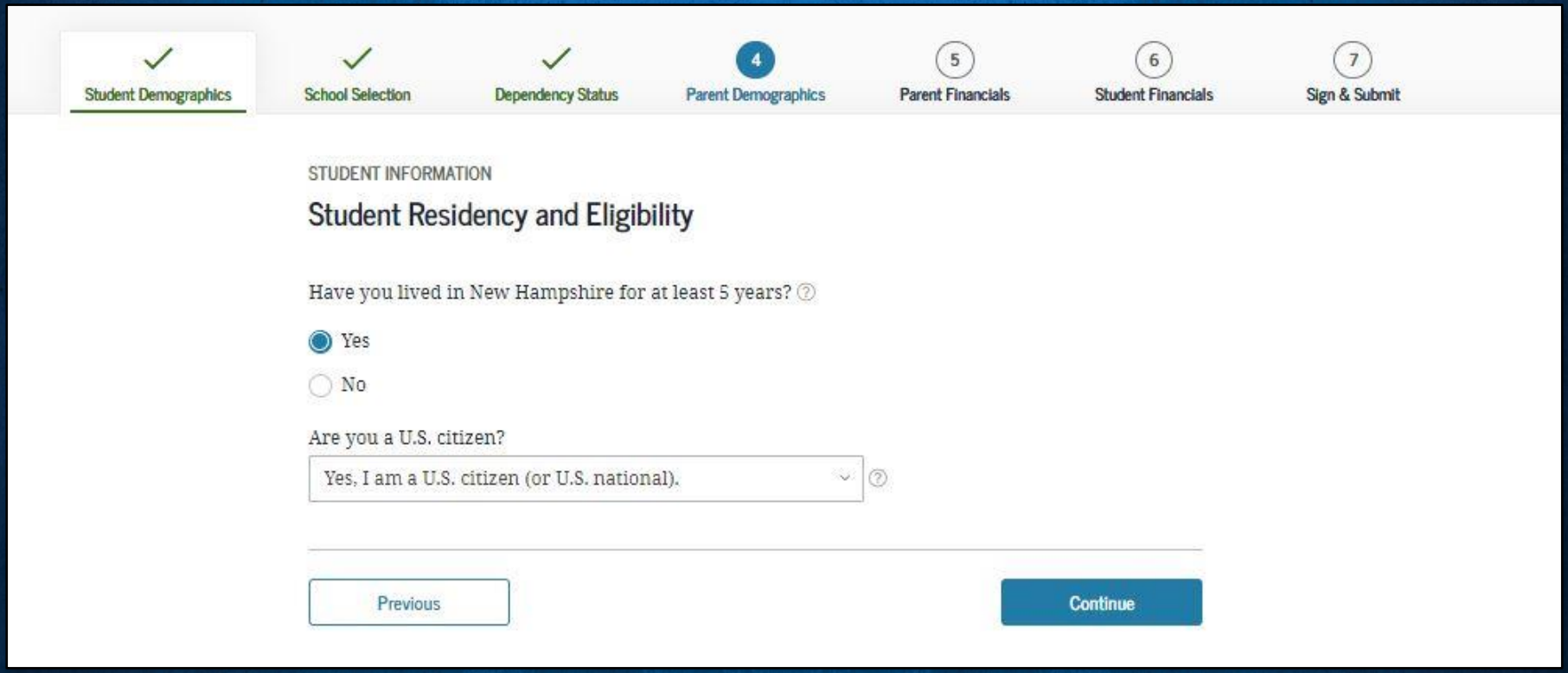
Student Email and Phone



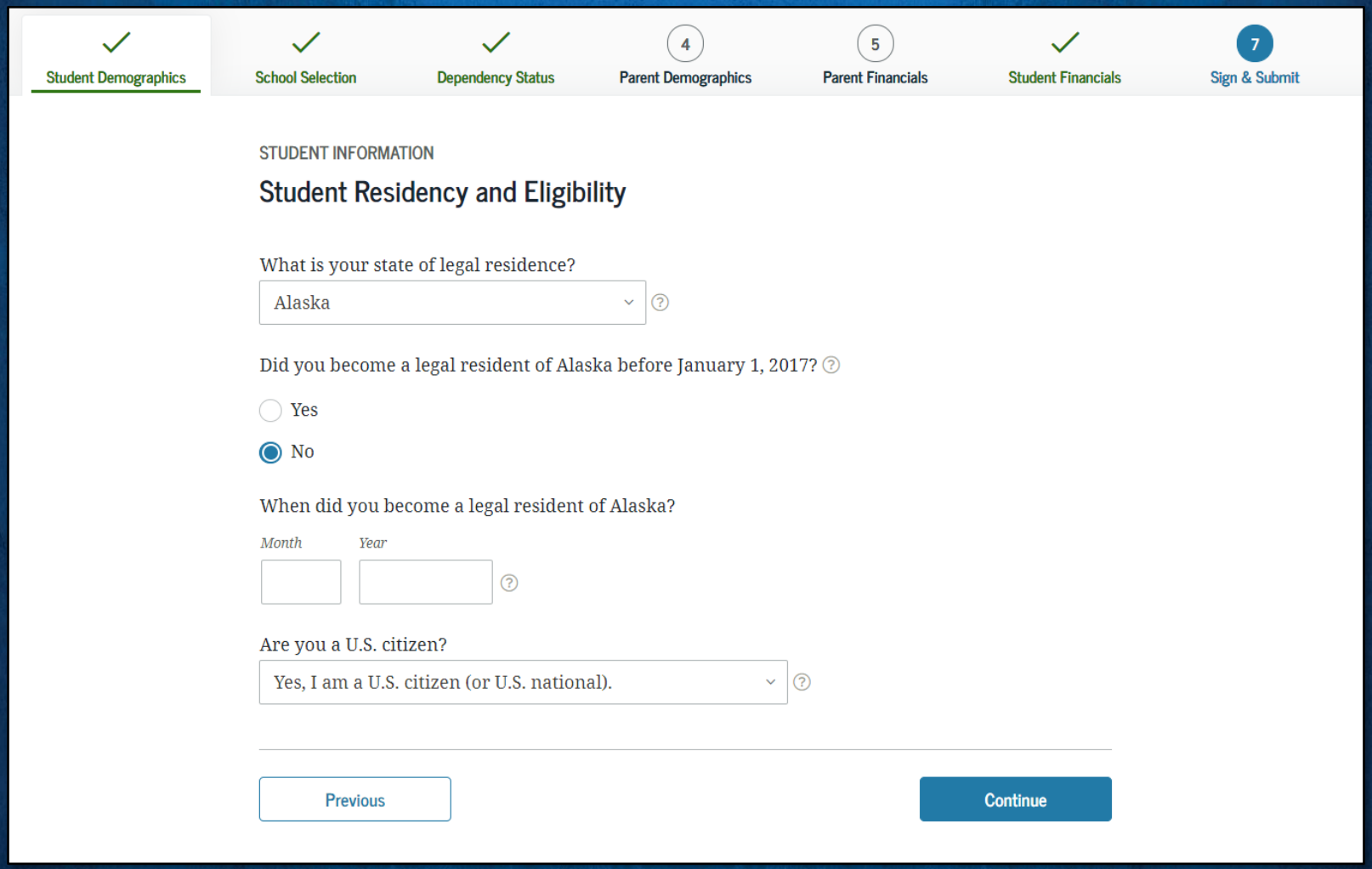
Student Address



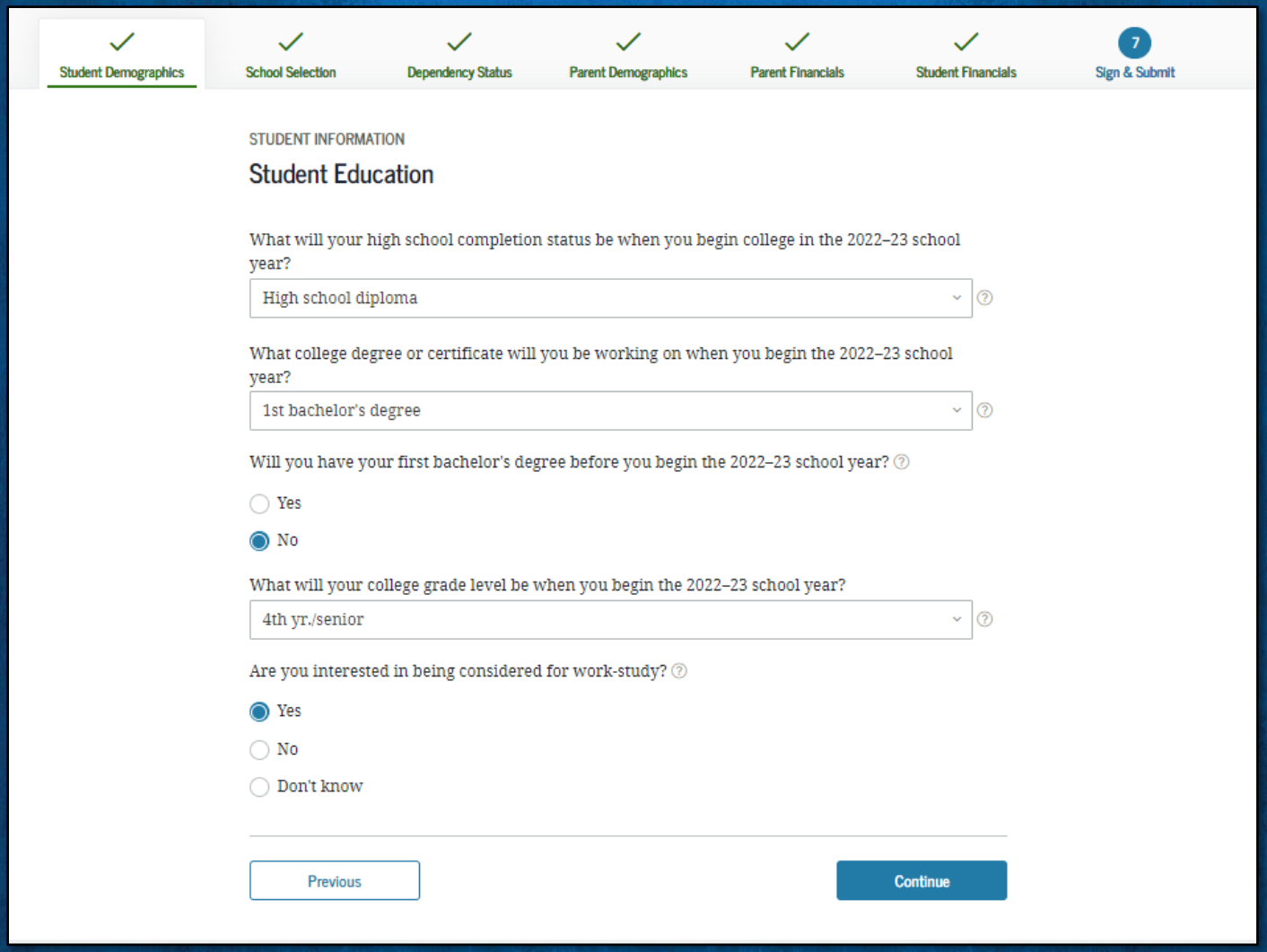
Student Residency and Eligibility



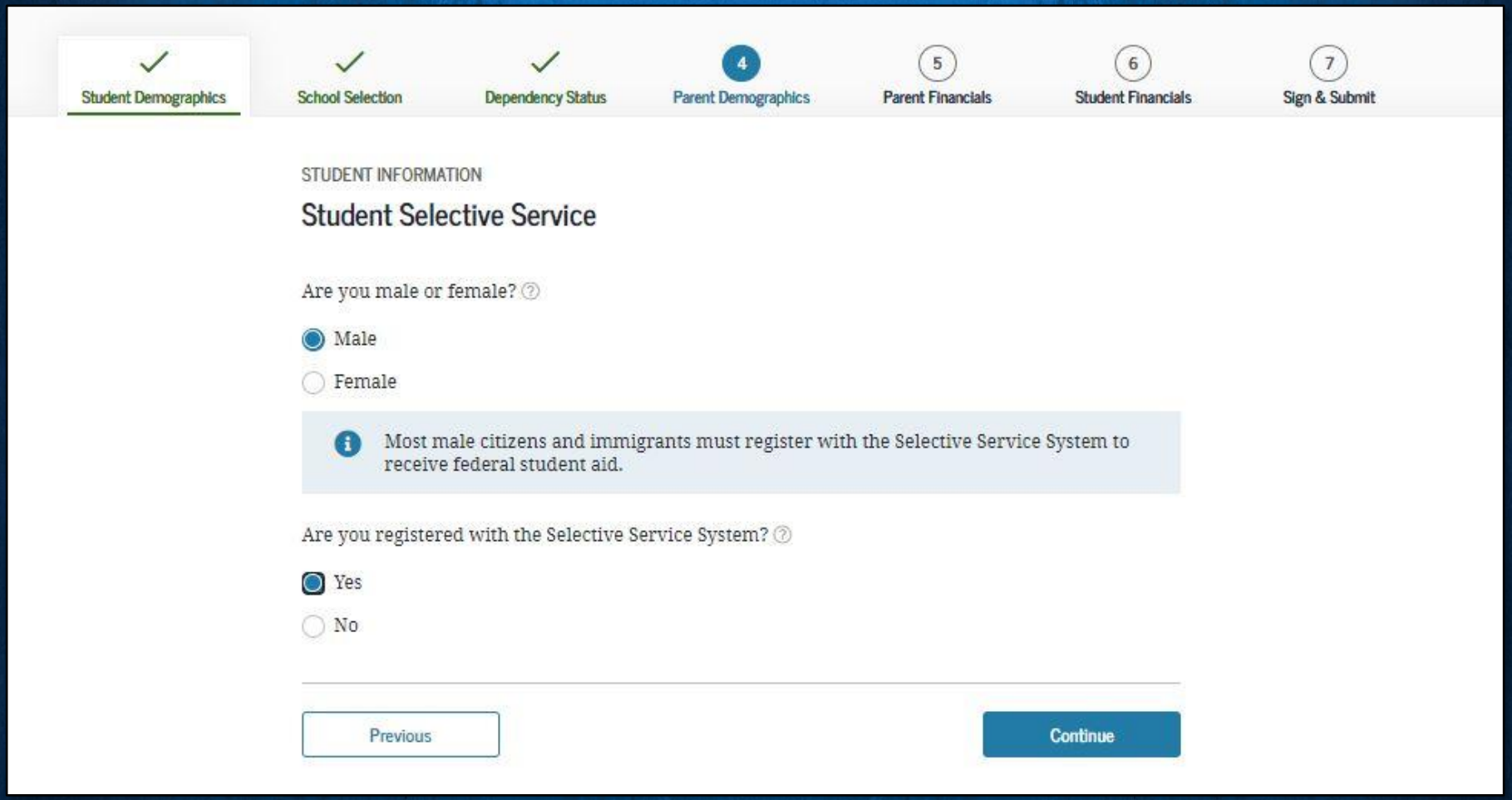
State of Legal Residence



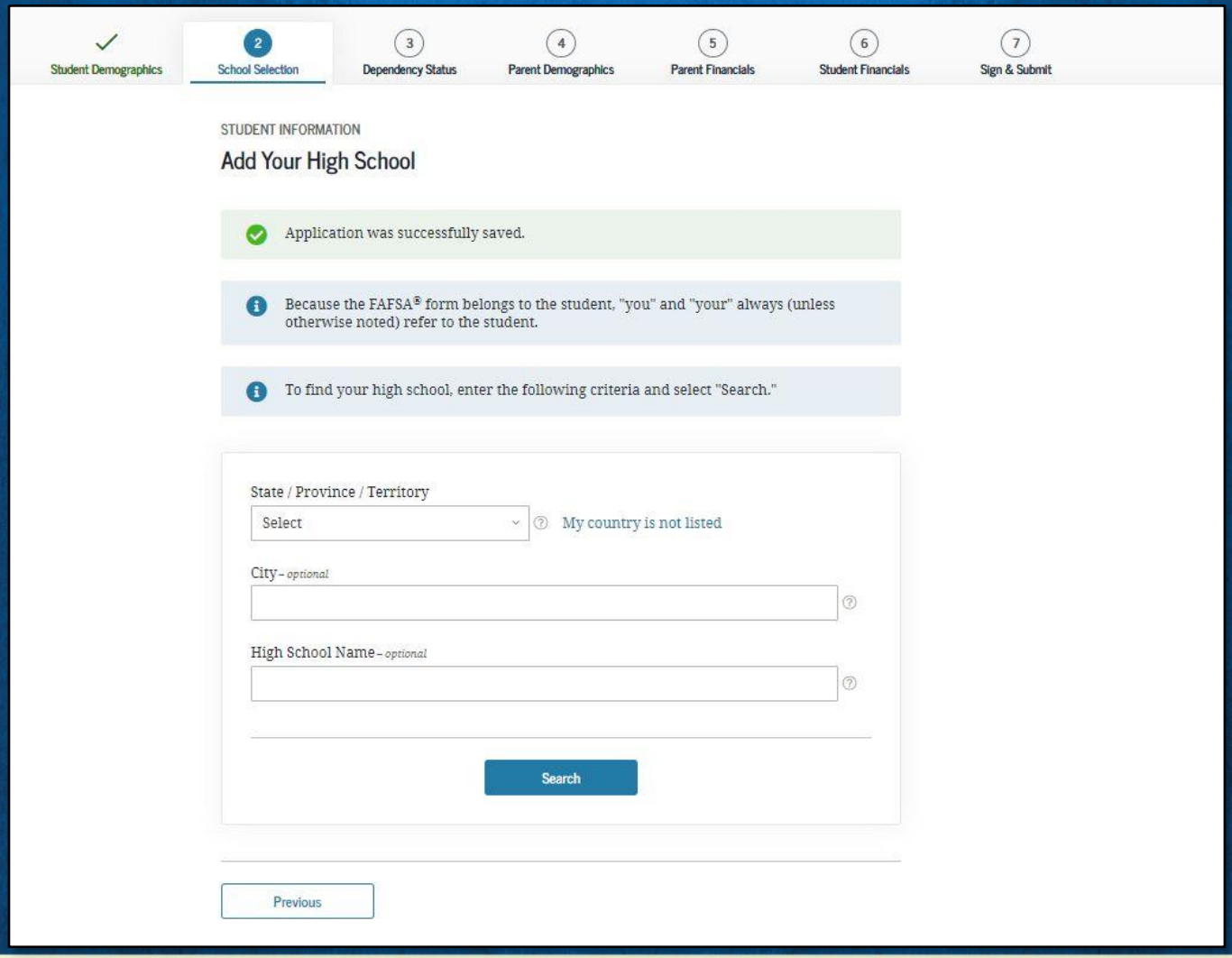
Student Education



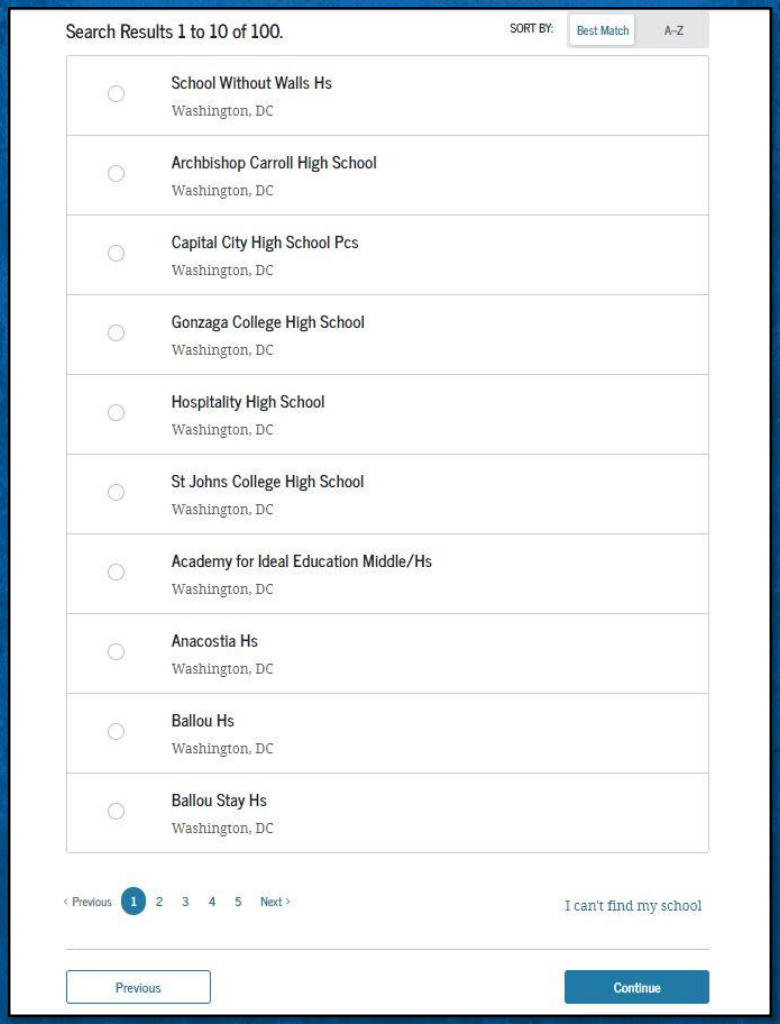
Student Selective Service



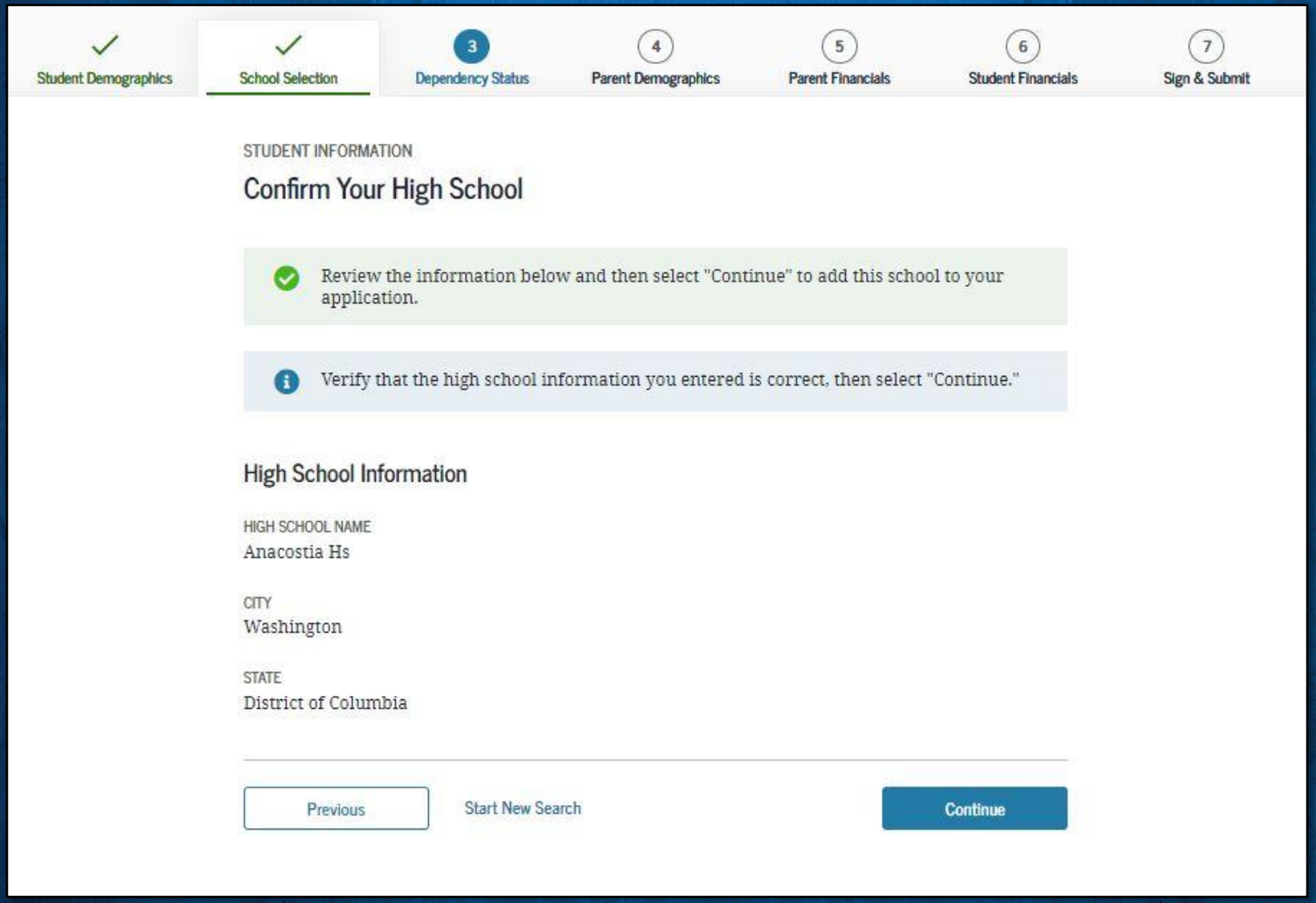
Search For High School



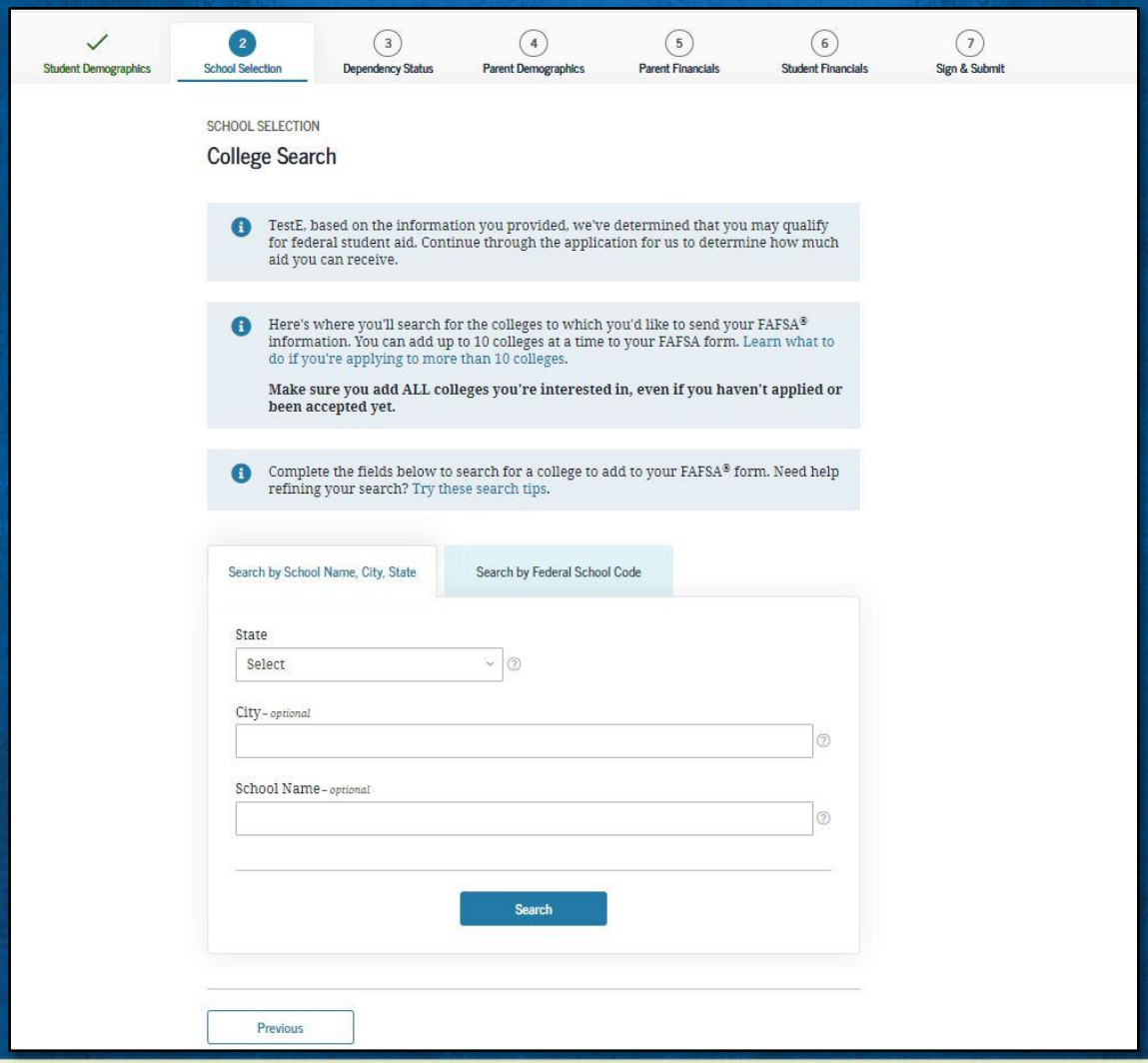
High School Search Results



Confirm Your High School



College Search



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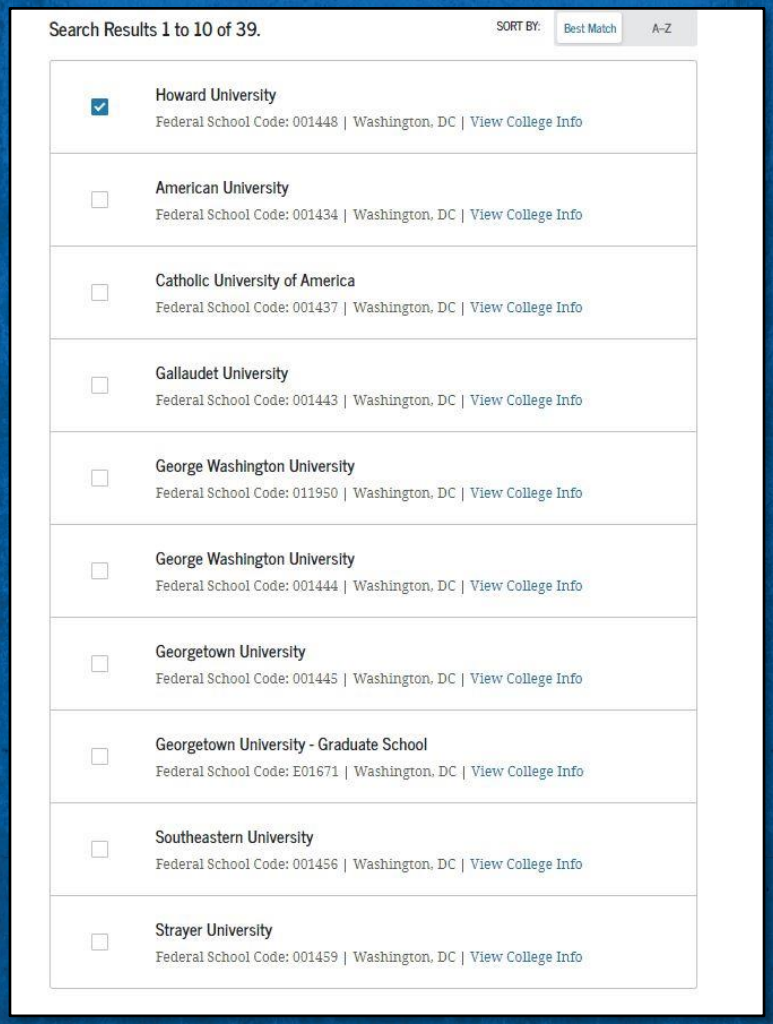
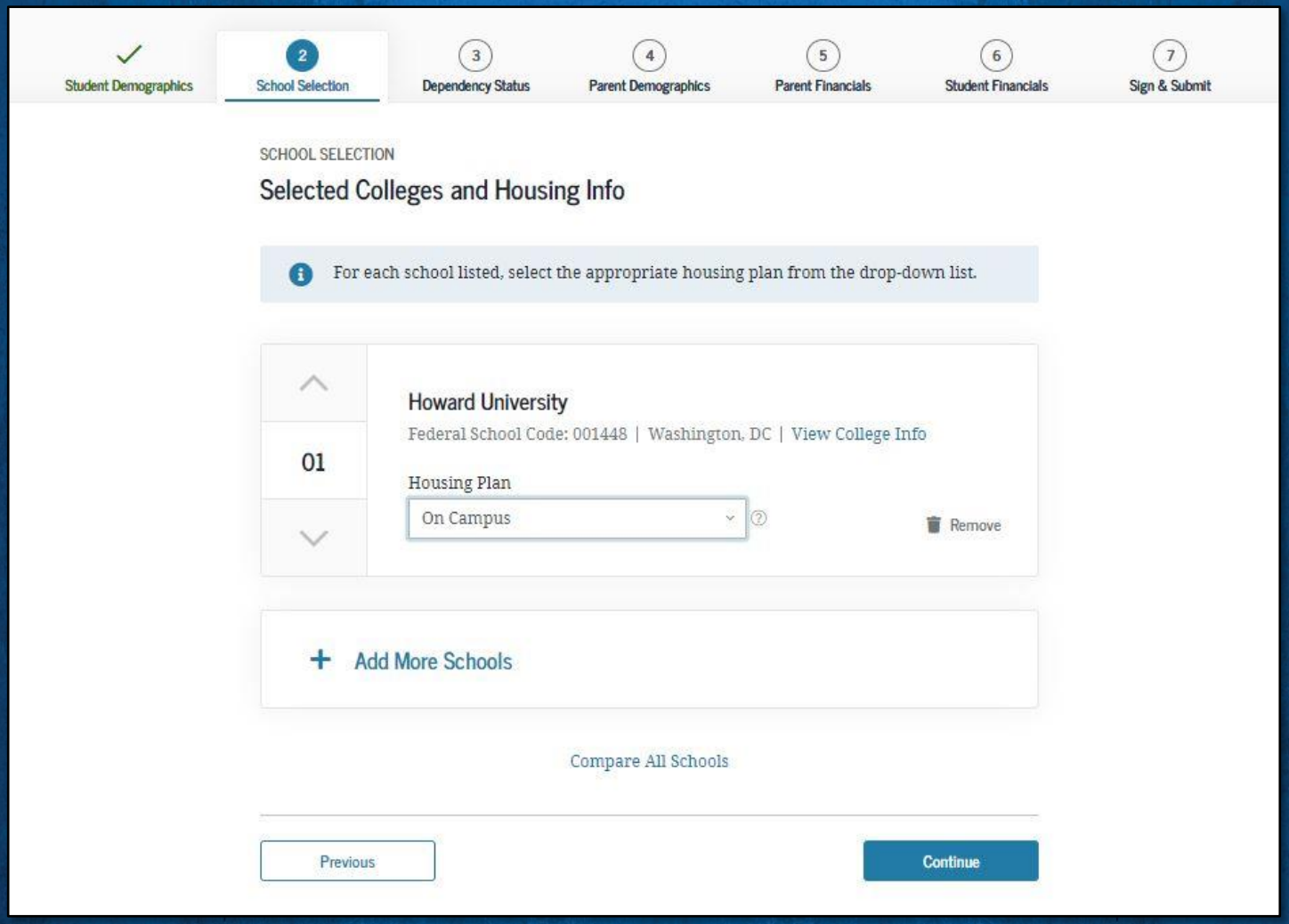
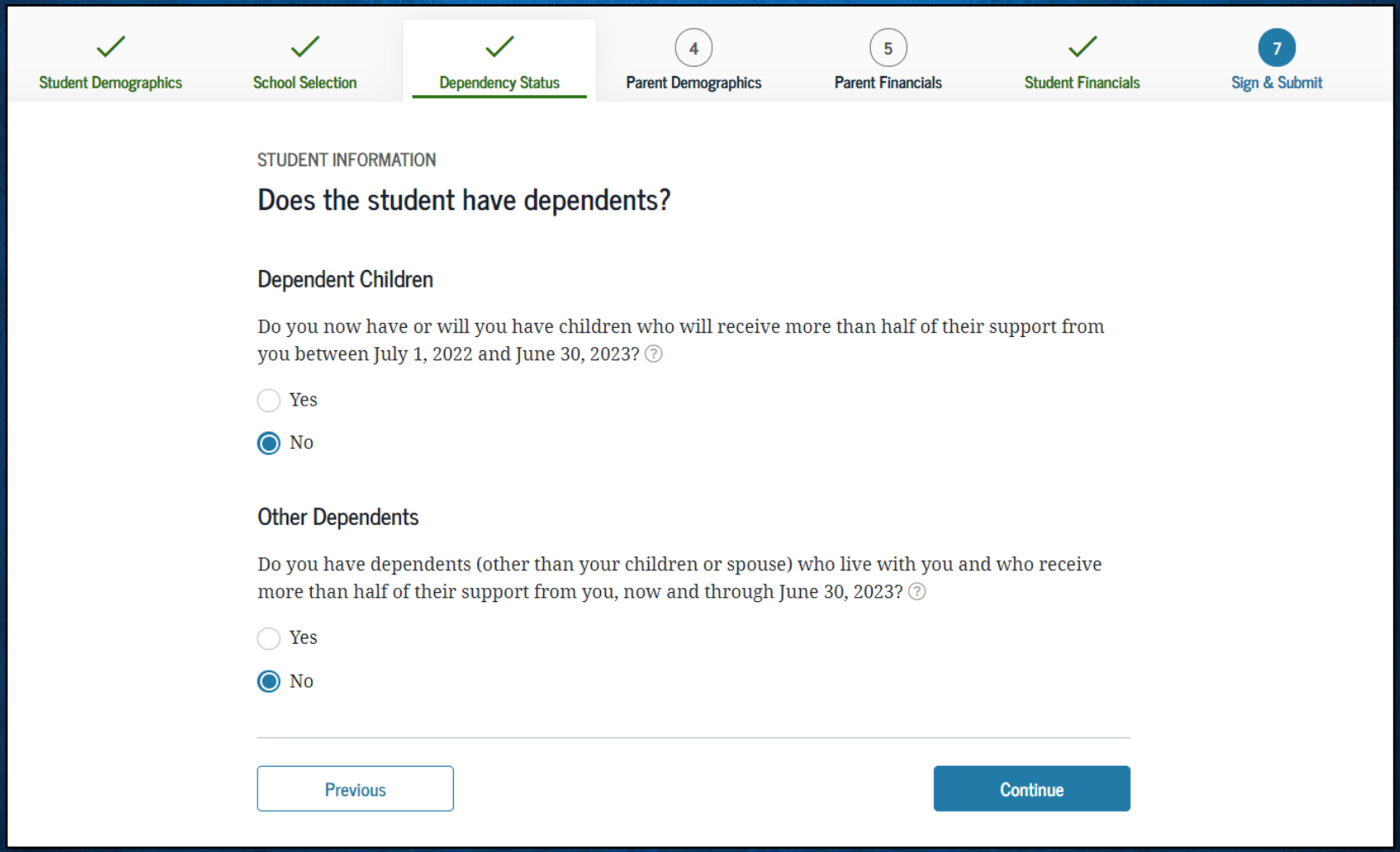


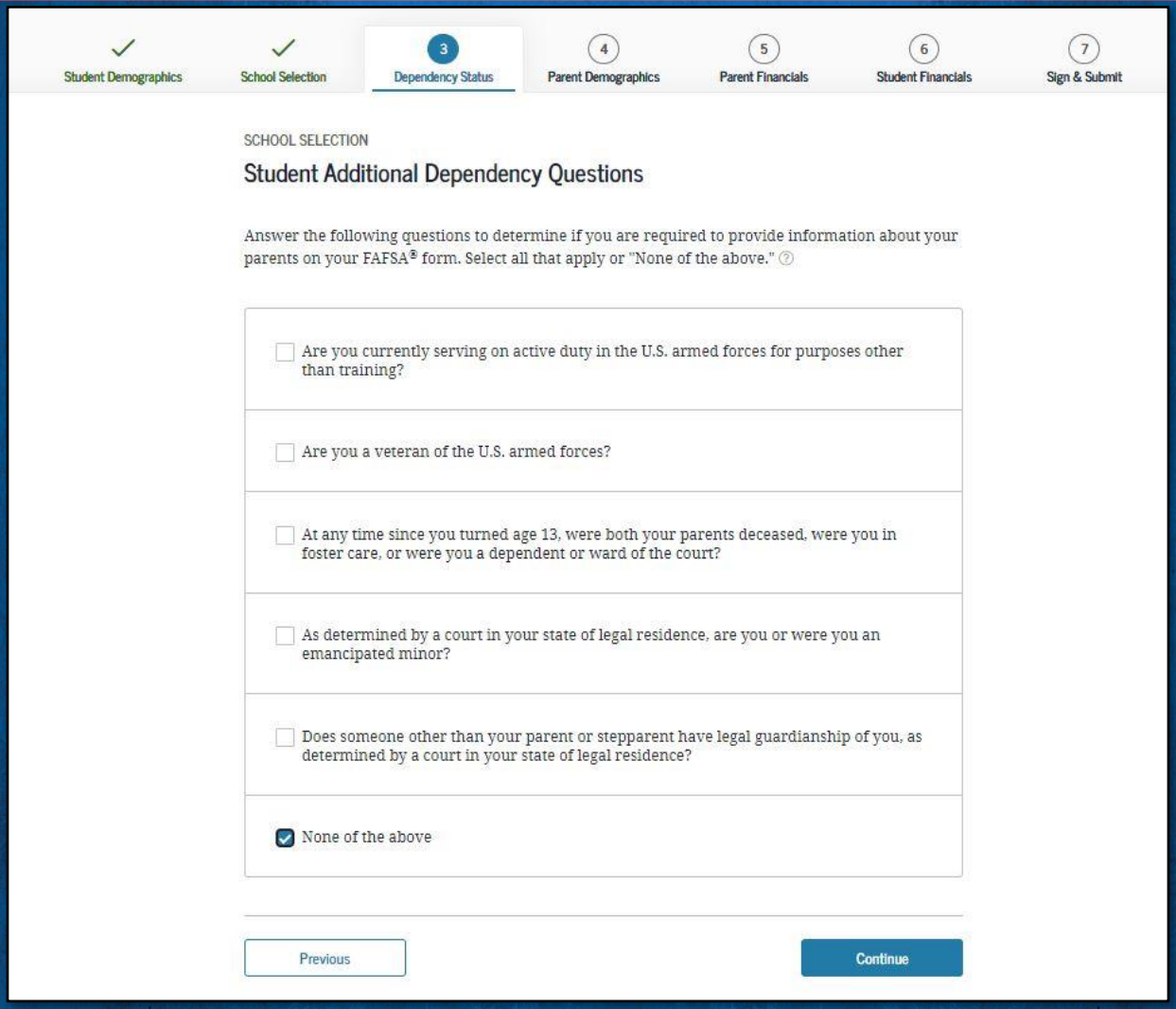
Selected Colleges and Housing Info



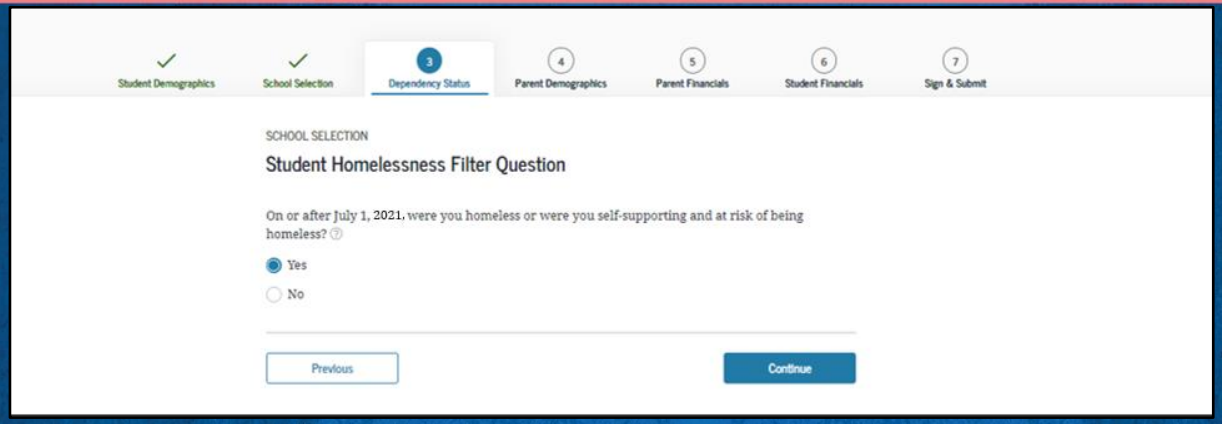
Does the Student Have Dependents?

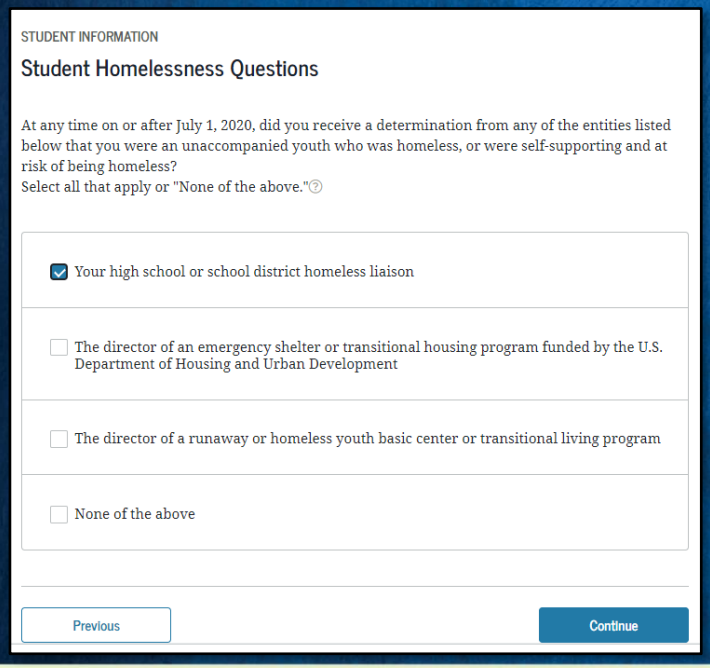


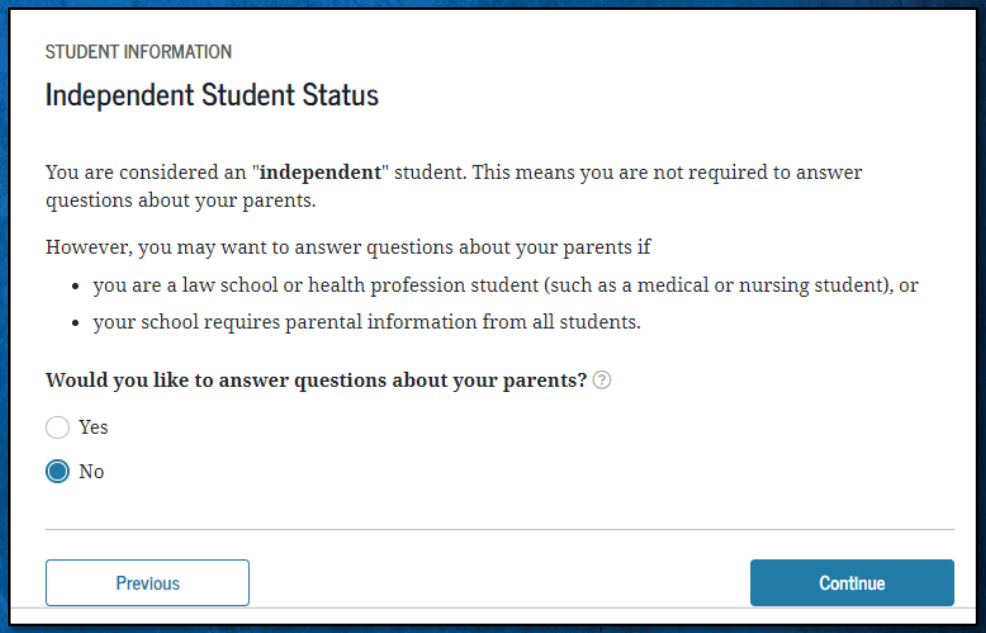
Additional Dependency Questions



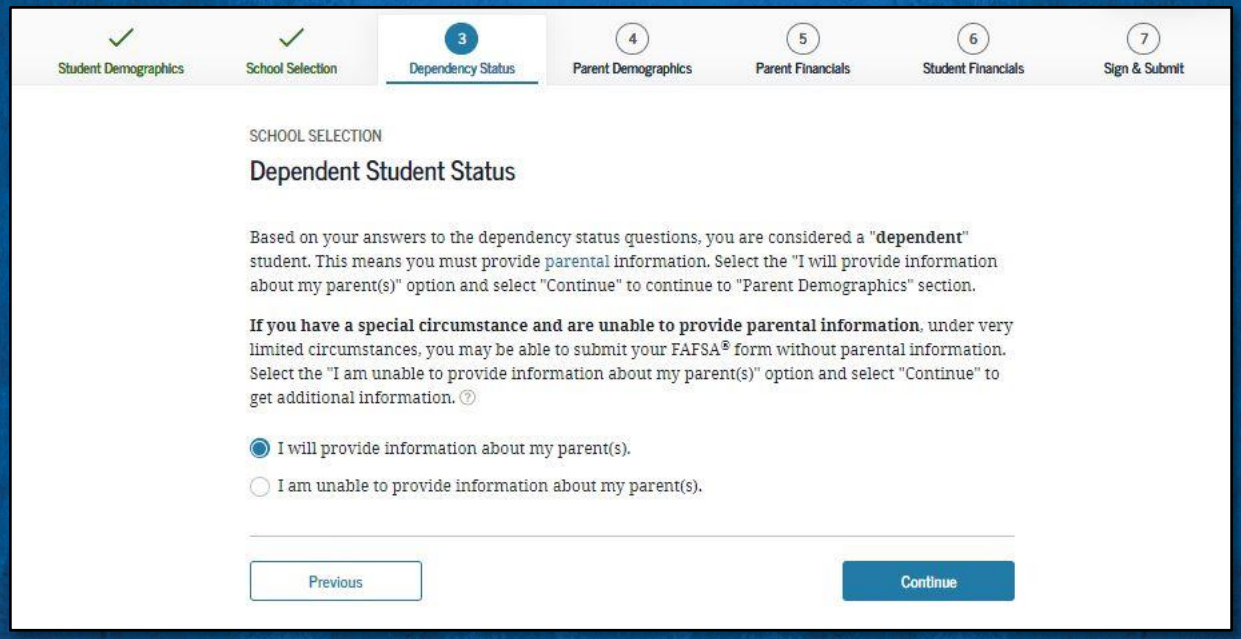
Homeless Or Unaccompanied Youth



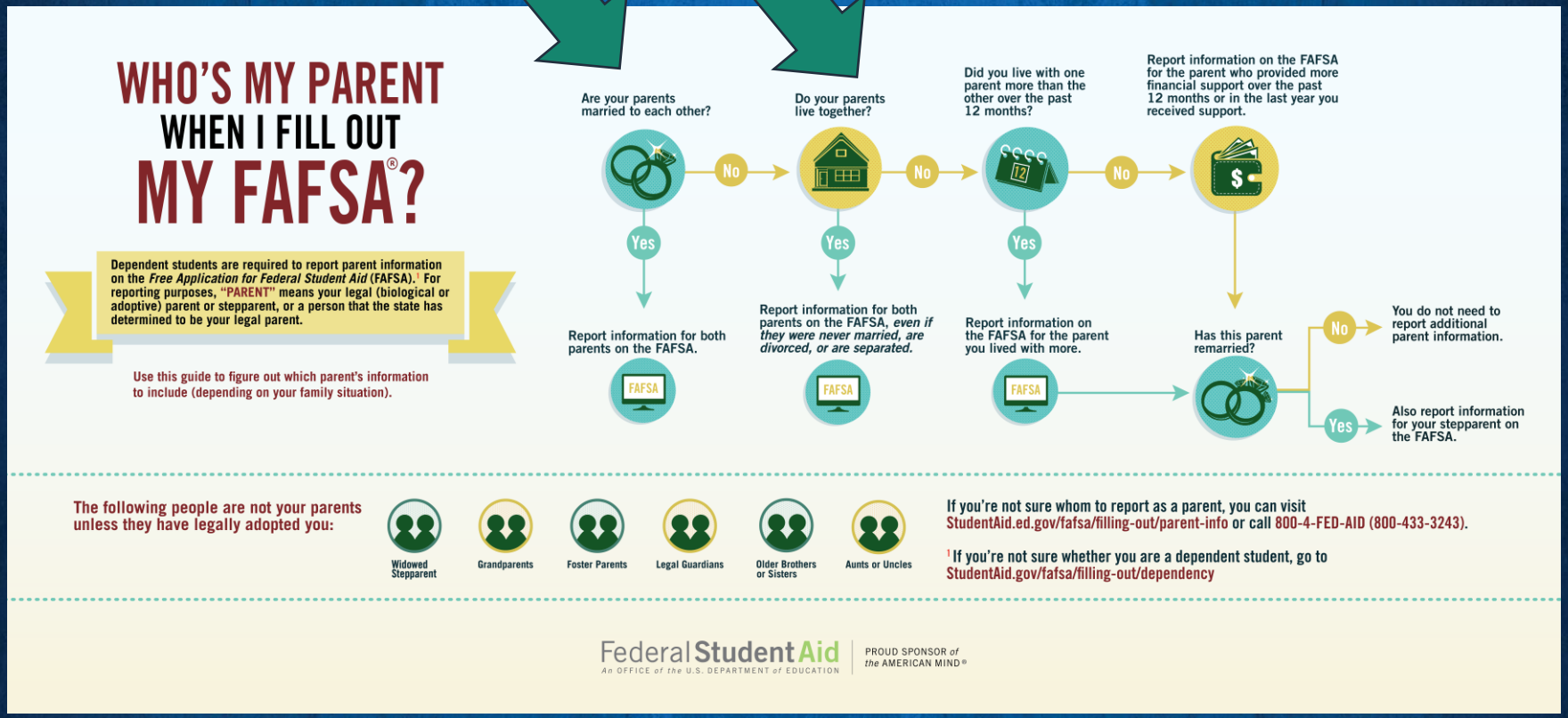




Dependent Student Status



Who's My Parent?

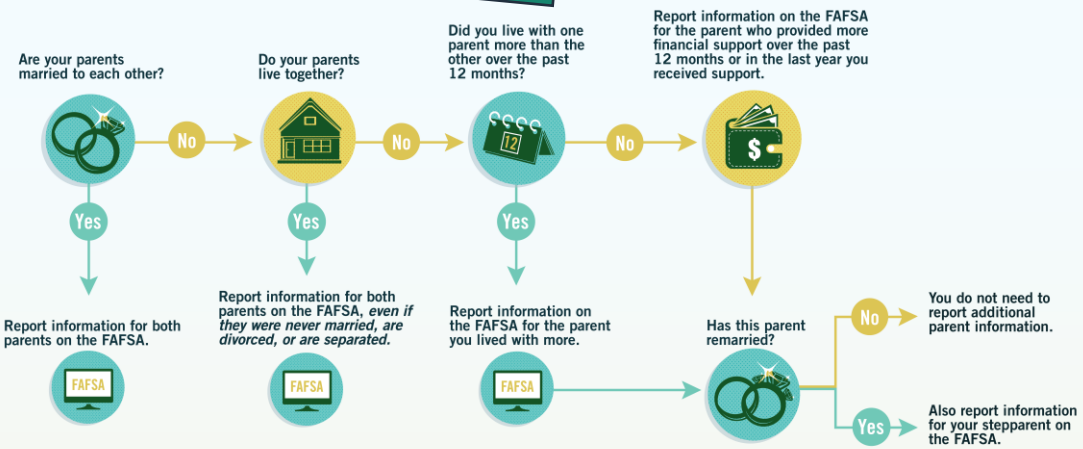


Who's My Parent?

WHO'S MY PARENT WHEN I FILL OUT MY FAFSA®?

Dependent students are required to report parent information on the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA).[1] For reporting purposes, "PARENT" means your legal (biological or adoptive) parent or stepparent, or a person that the state has determined to be your legal parent.

Use this guide to figure out which parent's information to include (depending on your family situation).



The following people are not your parents unless they have legally adopted you:

Widowed Stepparent · Grandparents · Foster Parents · Legal Guardians · Older Brothers or Sisters · Aunts or Uncles

If you're not sure whom to report as a parent, you can visit StudentAid.ed.gov/fafsa/filling-out/parent-info or call 800-4-FED-AID (800-433-3243).

[1] If you're not sure whether you are a dependent student, go to StudentAid.gov/fafsa/filling-out/dependency

Federal Student Aid
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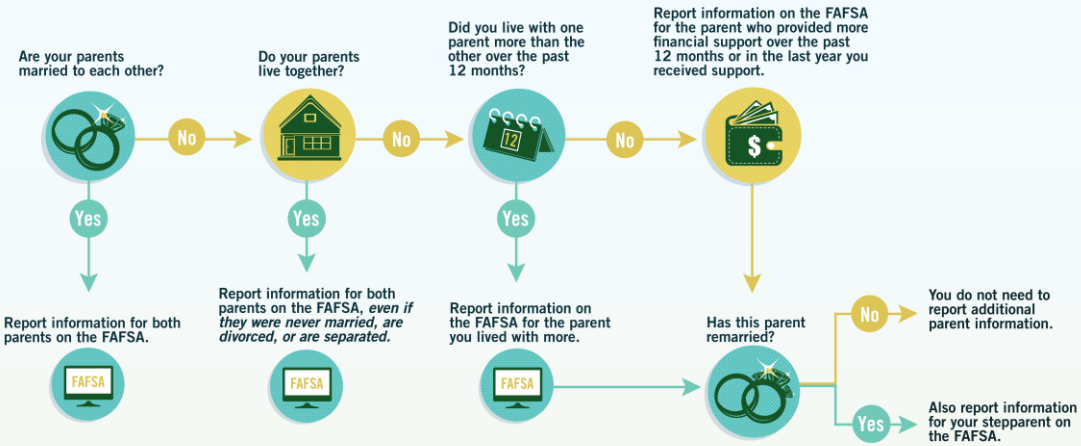

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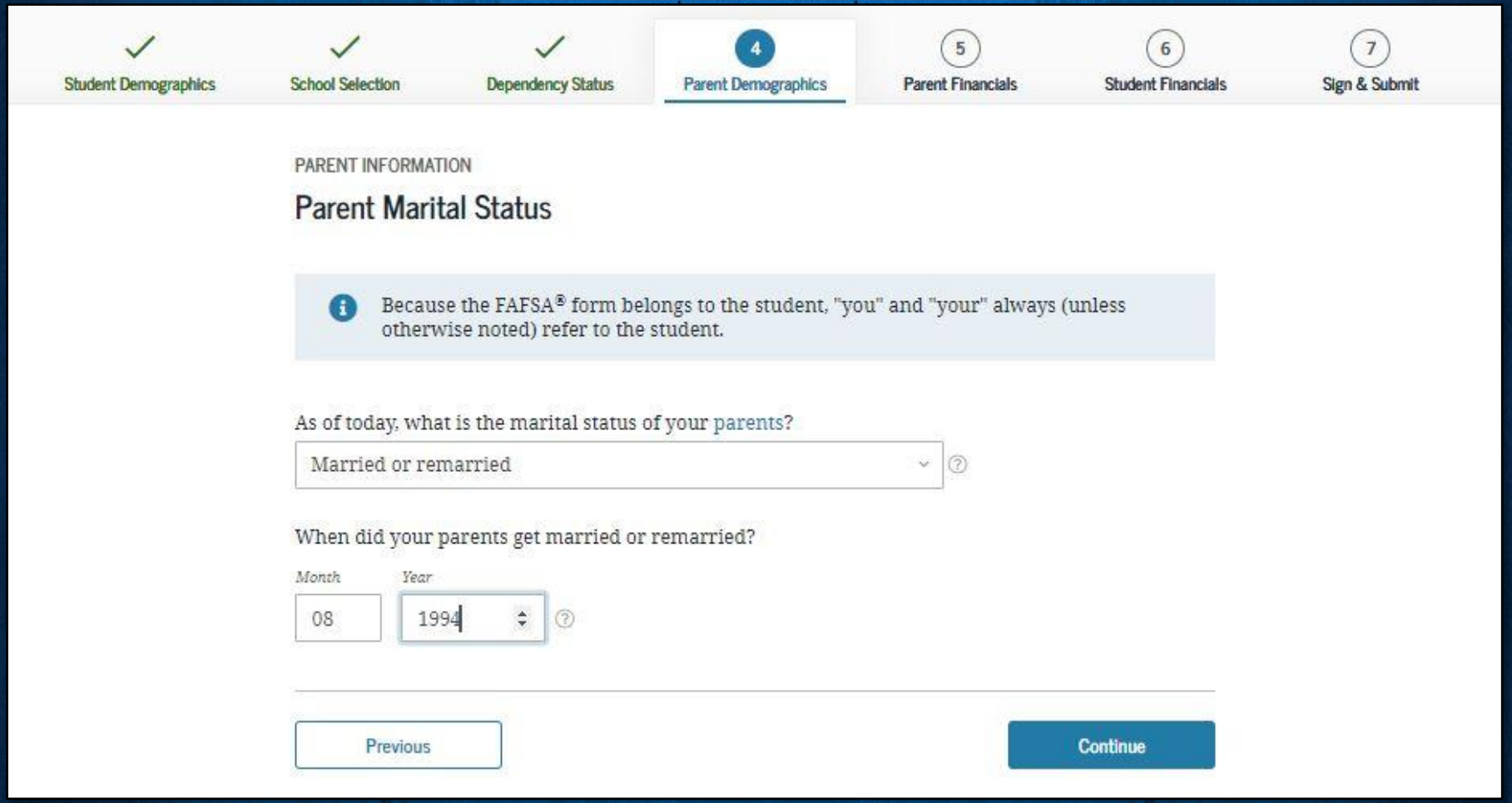
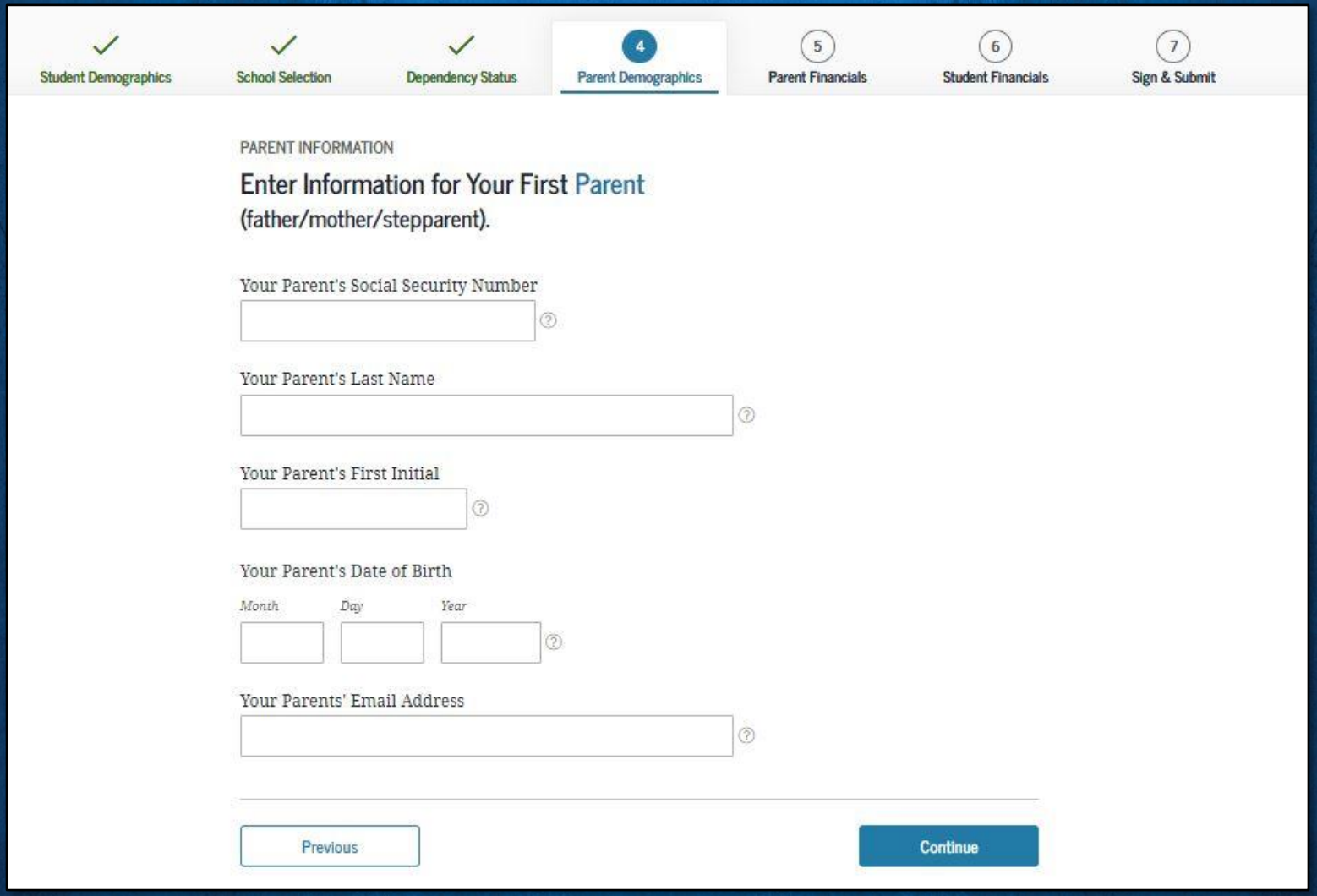
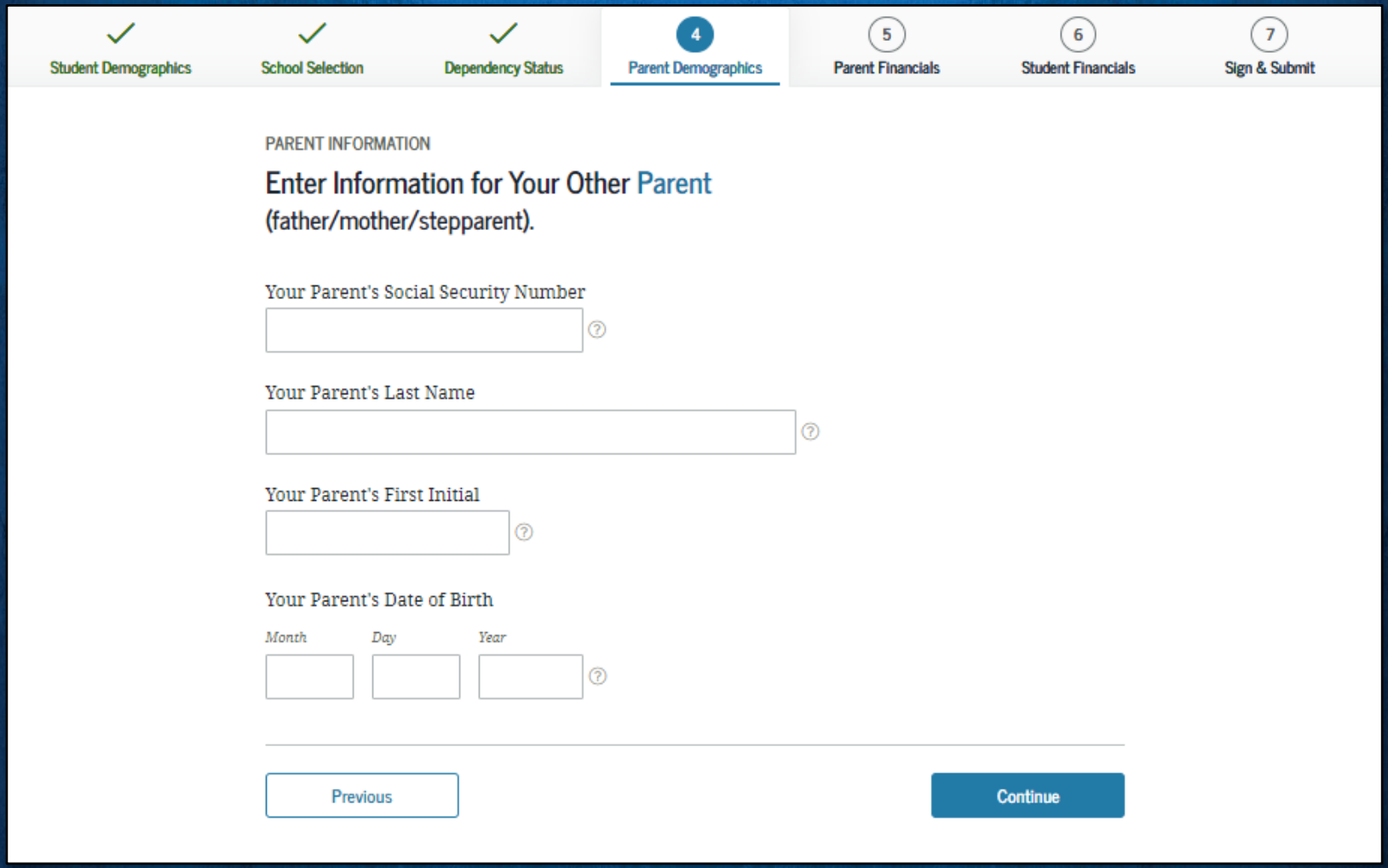
Parent Marital Status



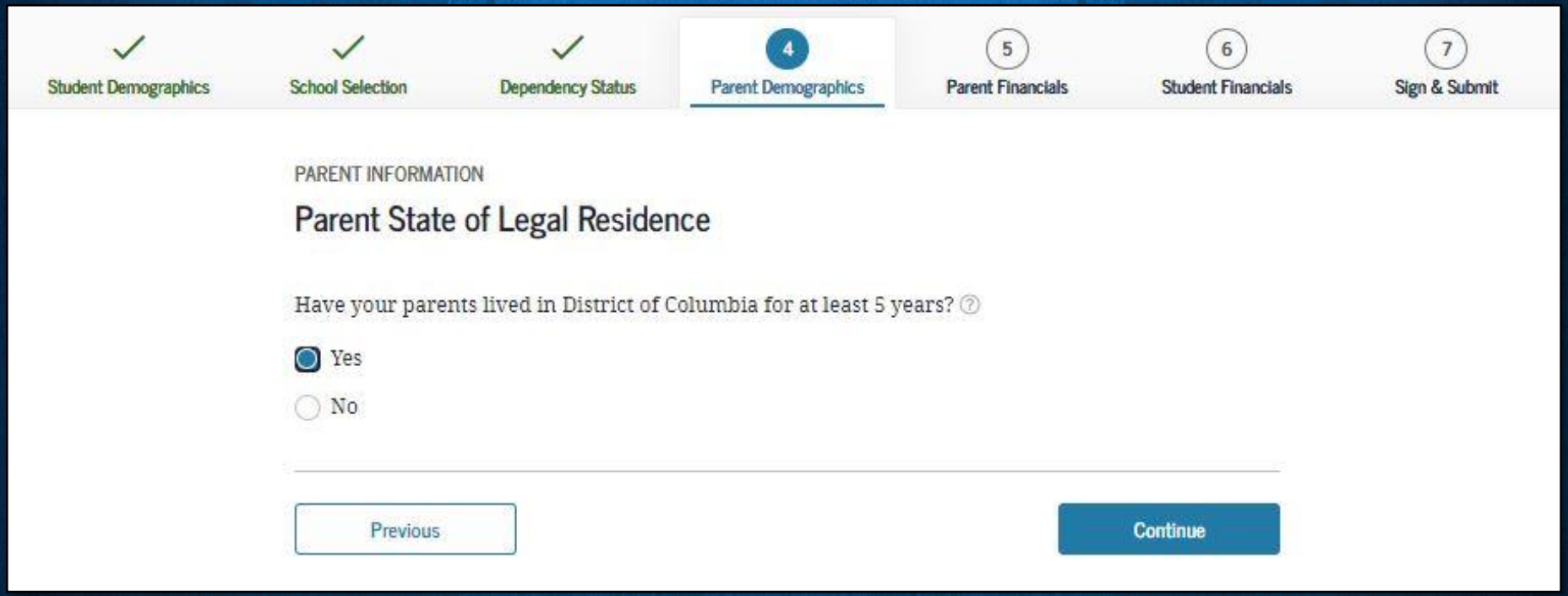
Personal Information For First Parent



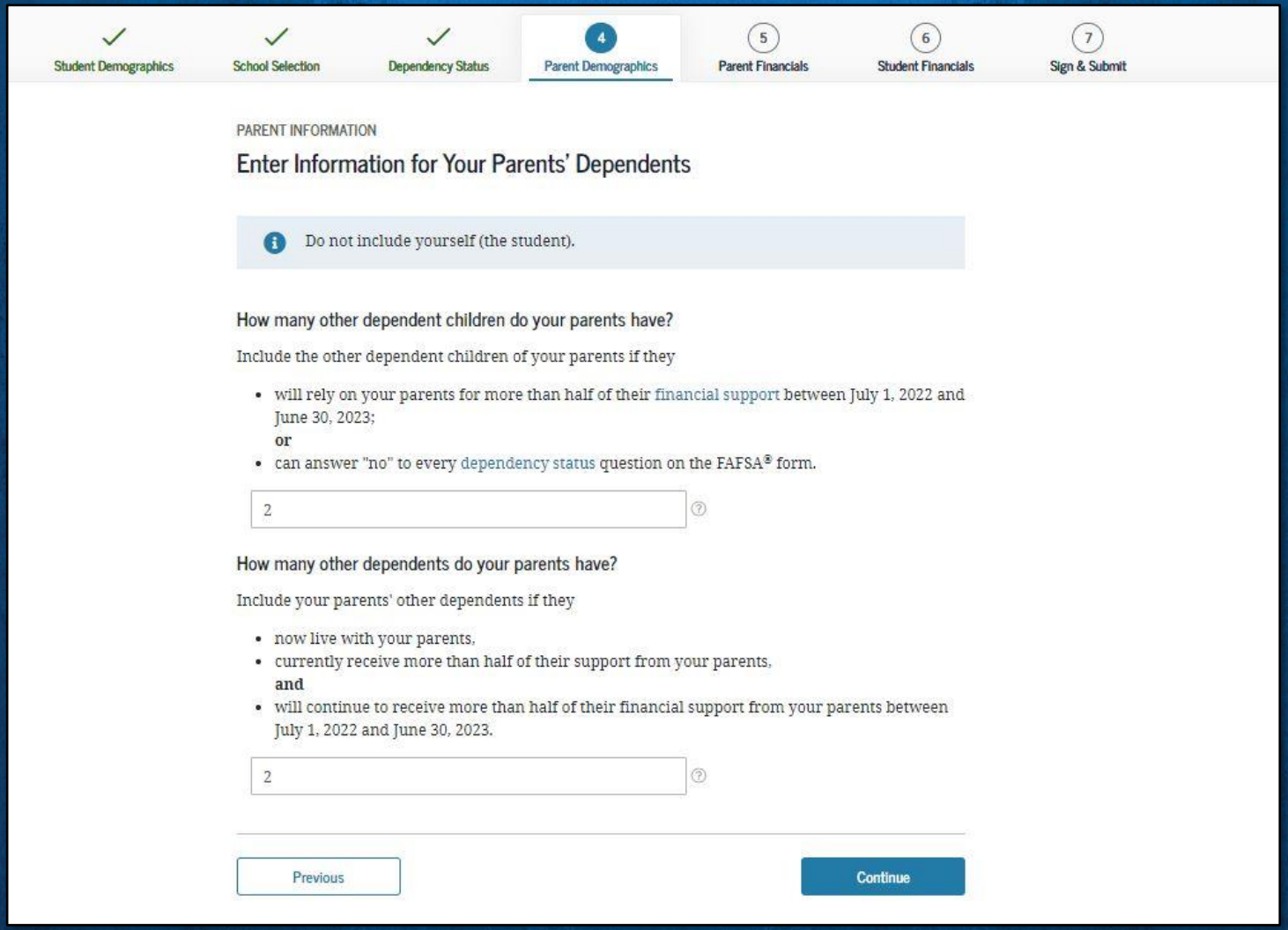
Personal Information For Other Parent



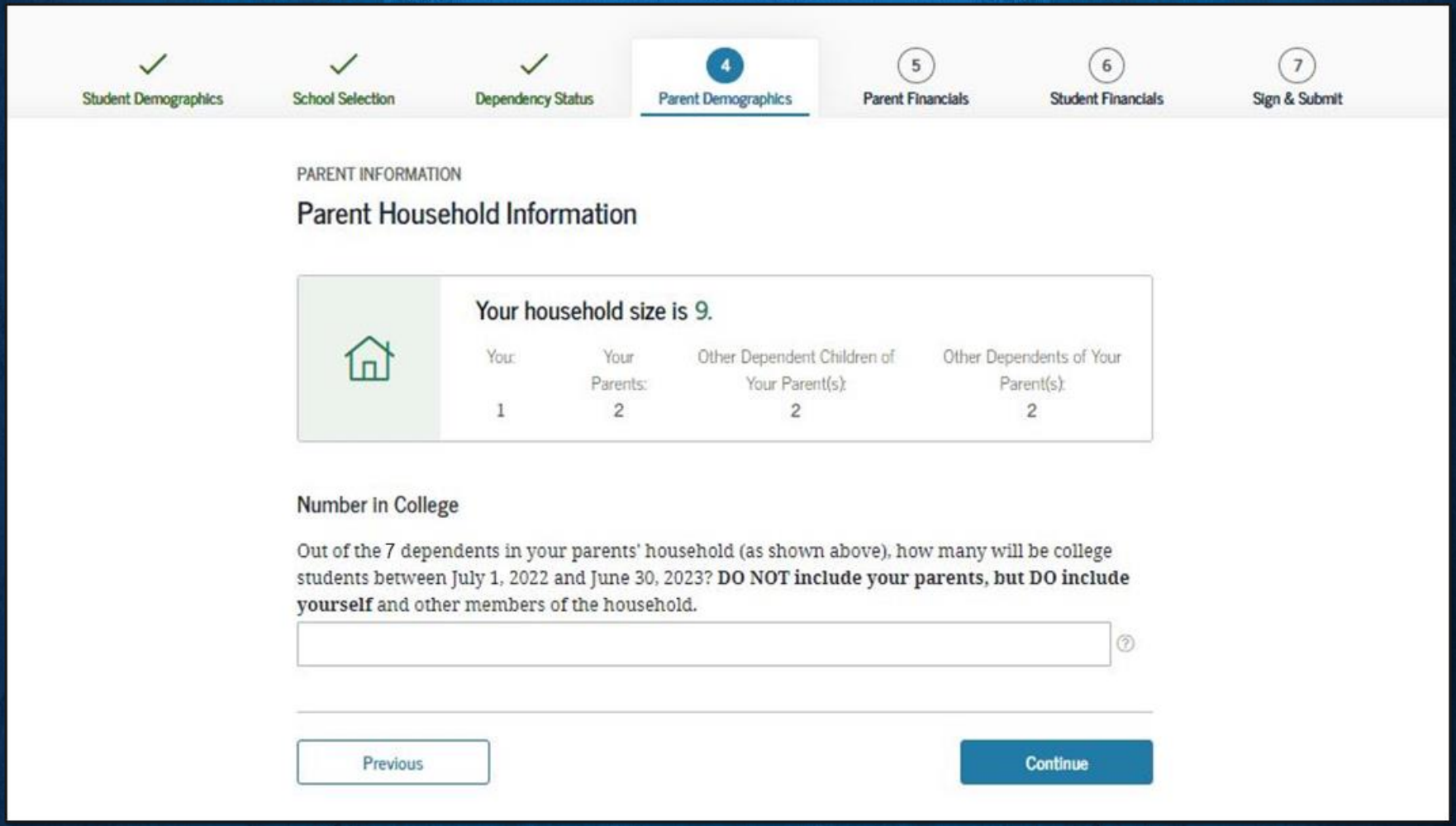
Parent State of Legal Residence



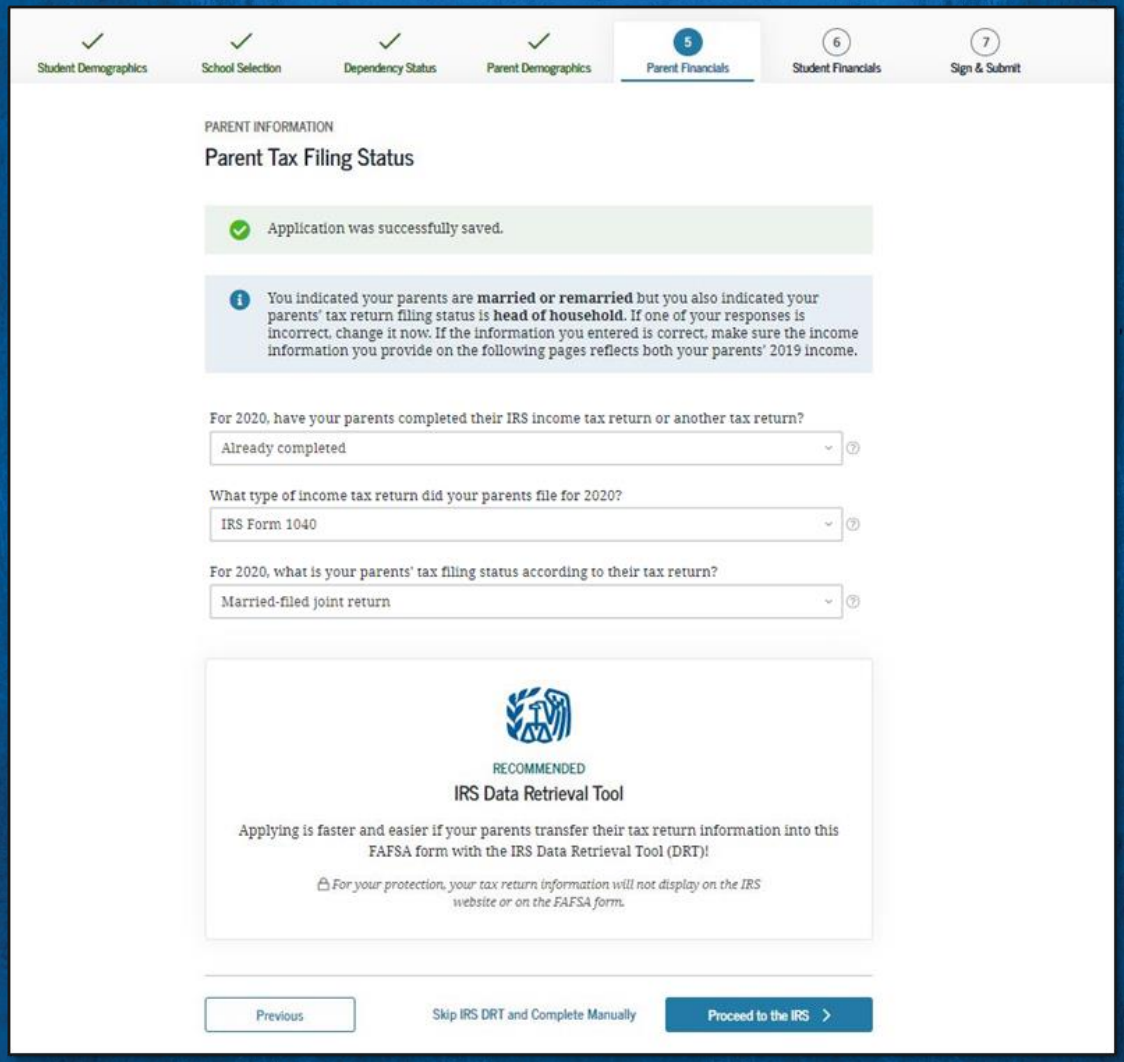
Parent's Dependents



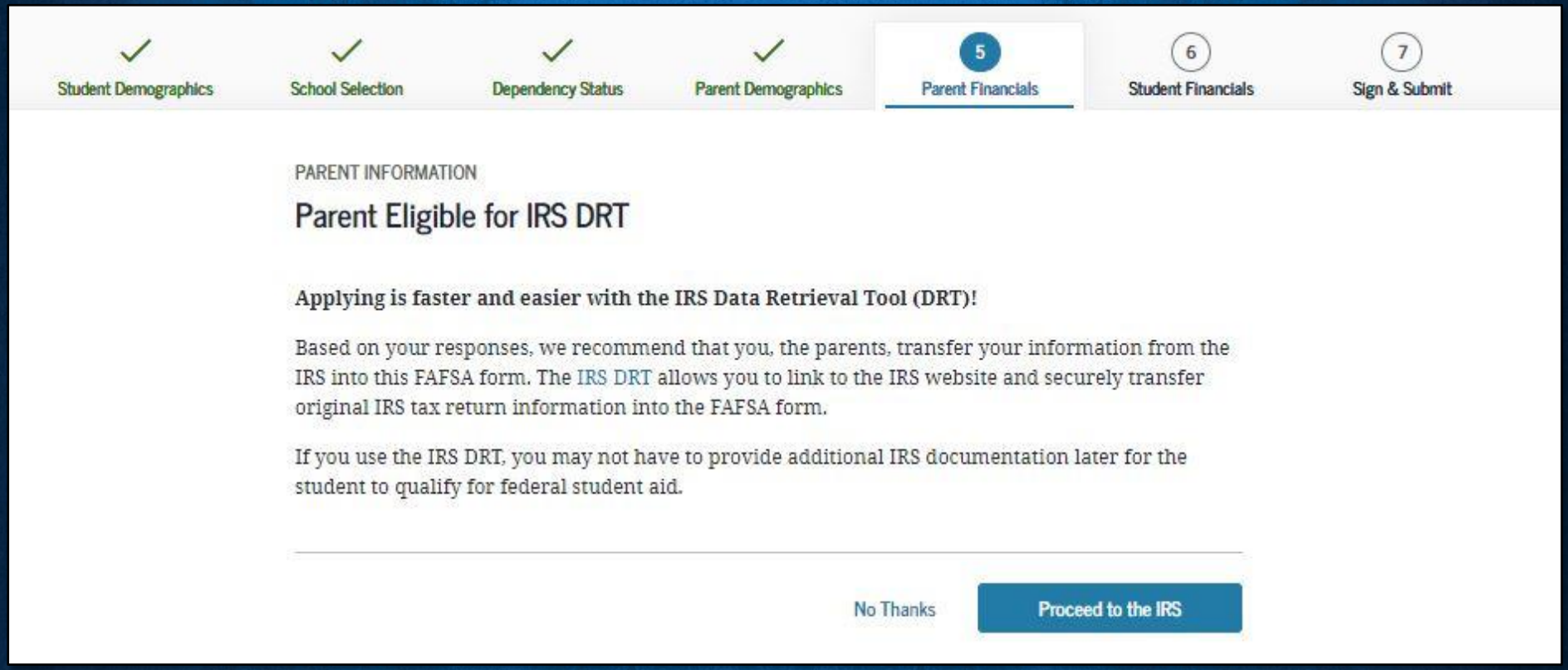
Parent Household Information



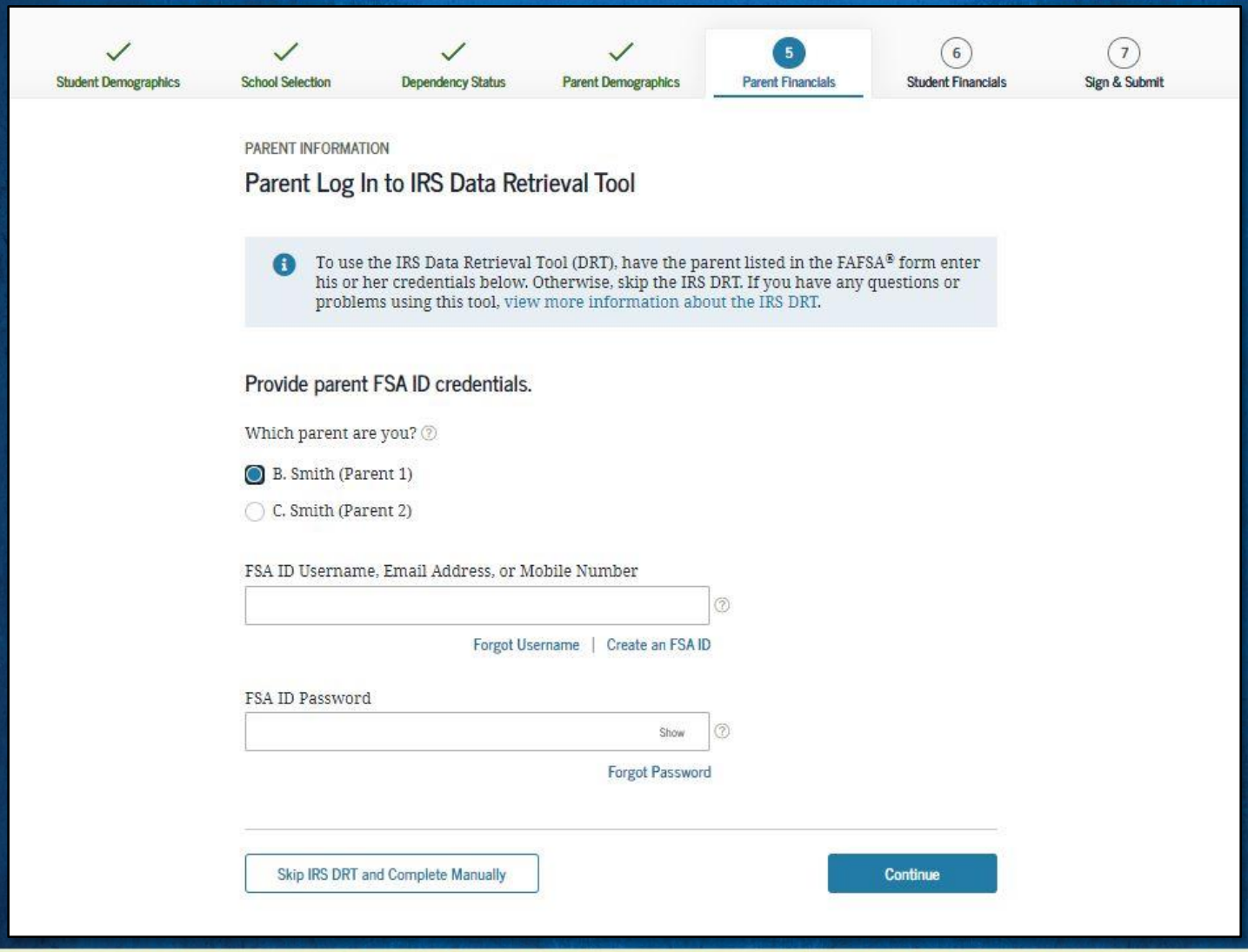
Parent Tax Filing Status



Parent Eligible for IRS DRT



Parent Log In to IRS Data Retrieval Tool



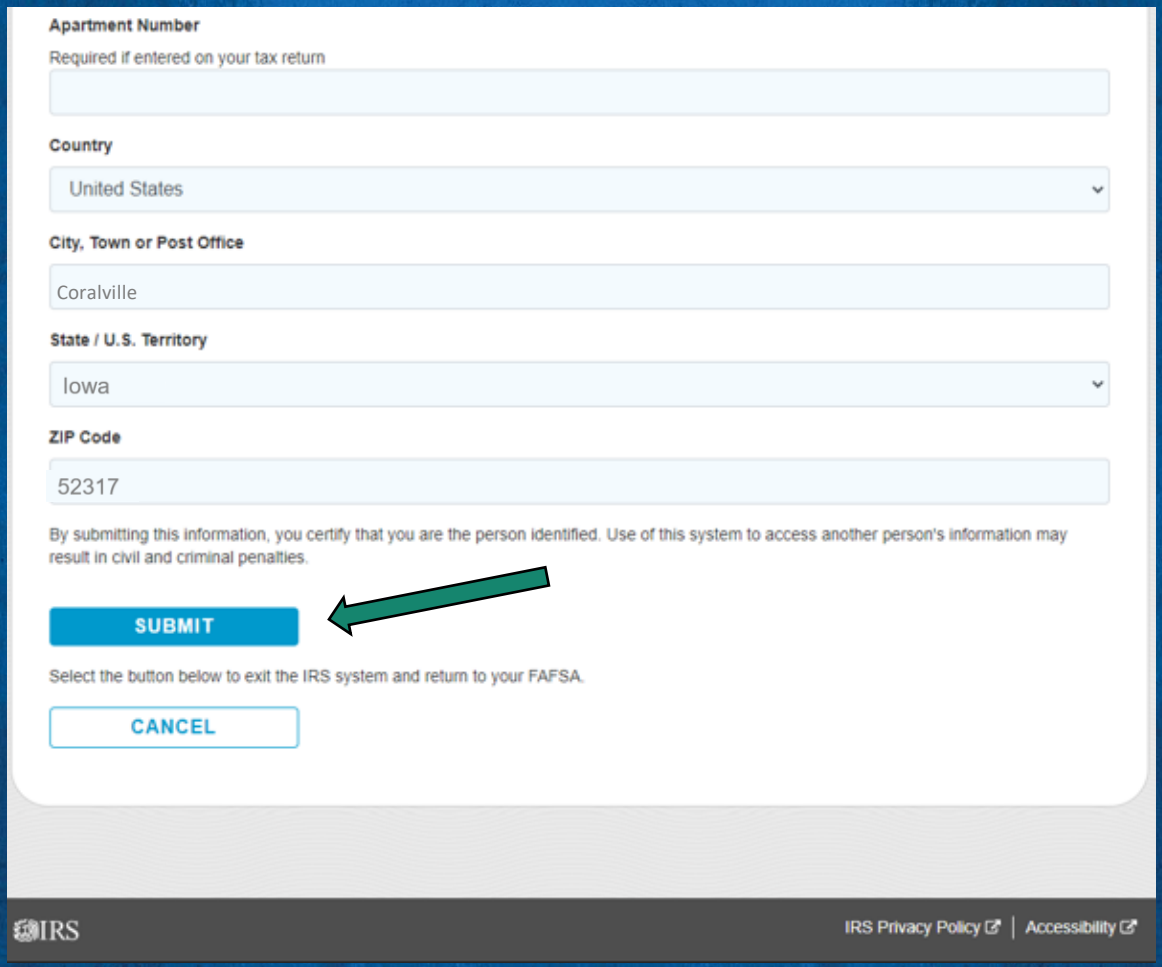
IRS DRT

An official website of the United States Government
IRS
Return to FAFSA | Help | Logout | Español
THIS U.S. GOVERNMENT SYSTEM IS FOR AUTHORIZED USE ONLY!
THIS U.S. GOVERNMENT SYSTEM IS FOR AUTHORIZED USE ONLY! Use of this system constitutes consent to monitoring, interception, recording, reading, copying or capturing by authorized personnel of all activities. There is no right to privacy in this system. Unauthorized use of this system is prohibited and subject to criminal and civil penalties, including all penalties applicable to willful unauthorized access (UNAX) or inspection of taxpayer records (under 18 U.S.C. 1030 and 26 U.S.C. 7213A and 26 U.S.C. 7431).
OK
IRS
IRS Privacy Policy | Accessibility

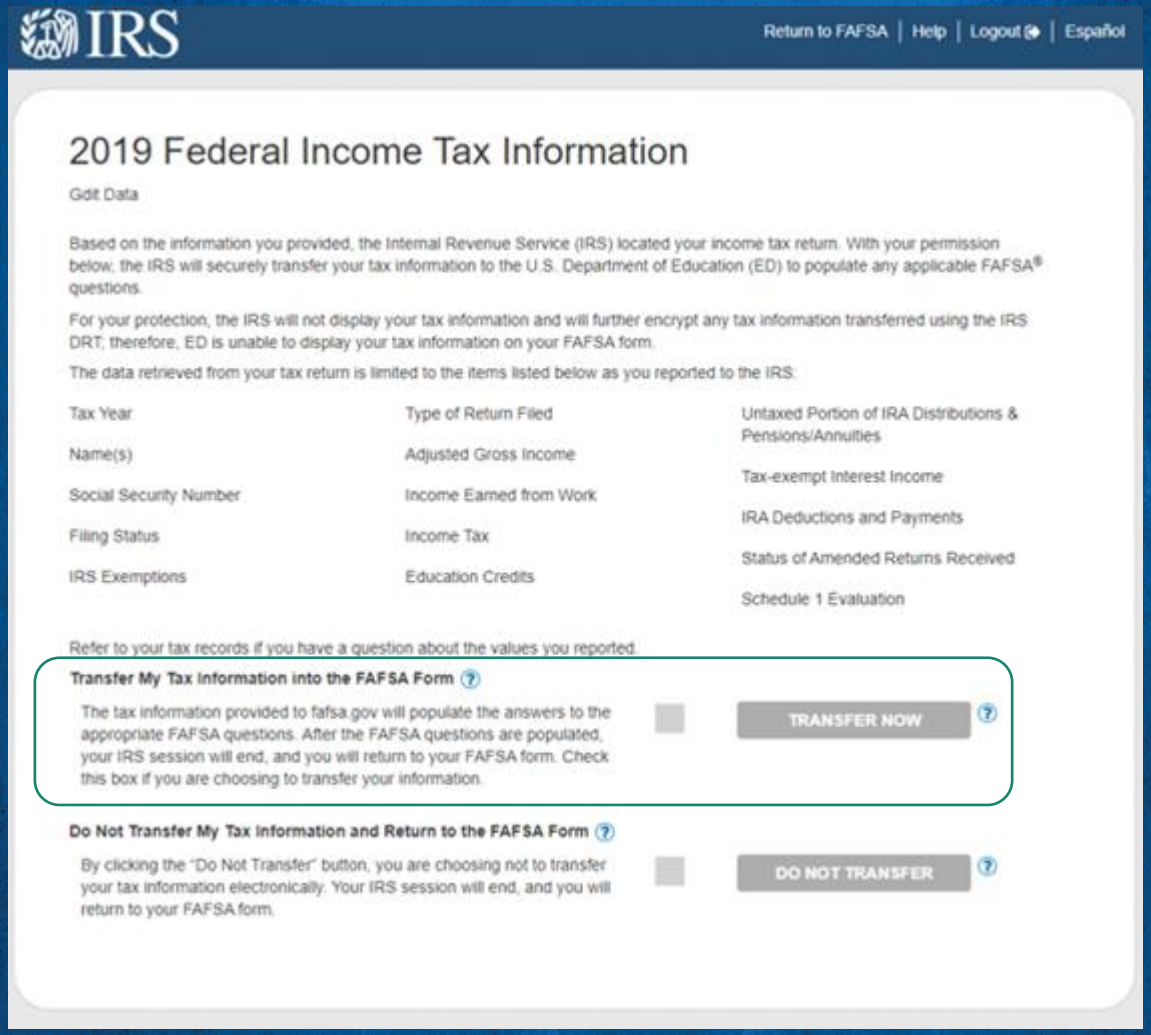
IRS DRT

IRS
Return to FAFSA | Help | Logout | Español
Get My Federal Income Tax Information
See our Privacy Notice regarding our request for your personal information.
Enter the following information from your 2019 Federal Income Tax Return.
All fields are required unless marked otherwise.
First Name
First
Last Name
Last
Social Security Number
No input required
*** - ** - 2617
Date of Birth
MM/DD/YYYY
01/01/1999
Filing Status
Single
Street Address
Must match your 2019 Federal Income
123 Oakdale Dr.
P.O. Box
Required if entered on your tax return

IRS DRT


Apartment Number
Required if entered on your tax return
Country
United States
City, Town or Post Office
Coralville
State / U.S. Territory
Iowa
ZIP Code
52317
By submitting this information, you certify that you are the person identified. Use of this system to access another person's information may result in civil and criminal penalties.
SUBMIT
Select the button below to exit the IRS system and return to your FAFSA.
CANCEL
IRS
IRS Privacy Policy
Accessibility

IRS Data Retrieval Tool



IRS

Return to FAFSA | Help | Logout | Español

2019 Federal Income Tax Information

Gdit Data

Based on the information you provided, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) located your income tax return. With your permission below, the IRS will securely transfer your tax information to the U.S. Department of Education (ED) to populate any applicable FAFSA® questions.

For your protection, the IRS will not display your tax information and will further encrypt any tax information transferred using the IRS DRT; therefore, ED is unable to display your tax information on your FAFSA form.

The data retrieved from your tax return is limited to the items listed below as you reported to the IRS:

- Tax Year
- Name(s)
- Social Security Number
- Filing Status
- IRS Exemptions
- Type of Return Filed
- Adjusted Gross Income
- Income Earned from Work
- Income Tax
- Education Credits
- Untaxed Portion of IRA Distributions & Pensions/Annuities
- Tax-exempt Interest Income
- IRA Deductions and Payments
- Status of Amended Returns Received
- Schedule 1 Evaluation

Refer to your tax records if you have a question about the values you reported.

Transfer My Tax Information into the FAFSA Form

The tax information provided to fafsa.gov will populate the answers to the appropriate FAFSA questions. After the FAFSA questions are populated, your IRS session will end, and you will return to your FAFSA form. Check this box if you are choosing to transfer your information.

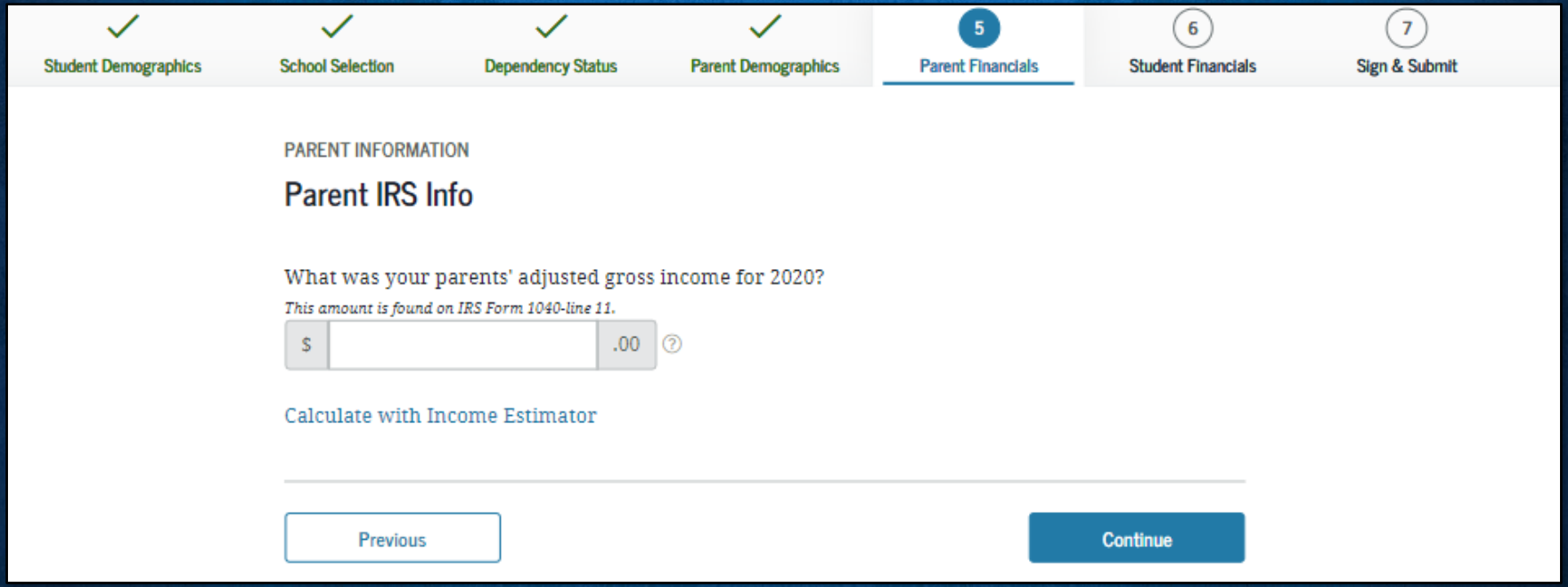
TRANSFER NOW

Do Not Transfer My Tax Information and Return to the FAFSA Form

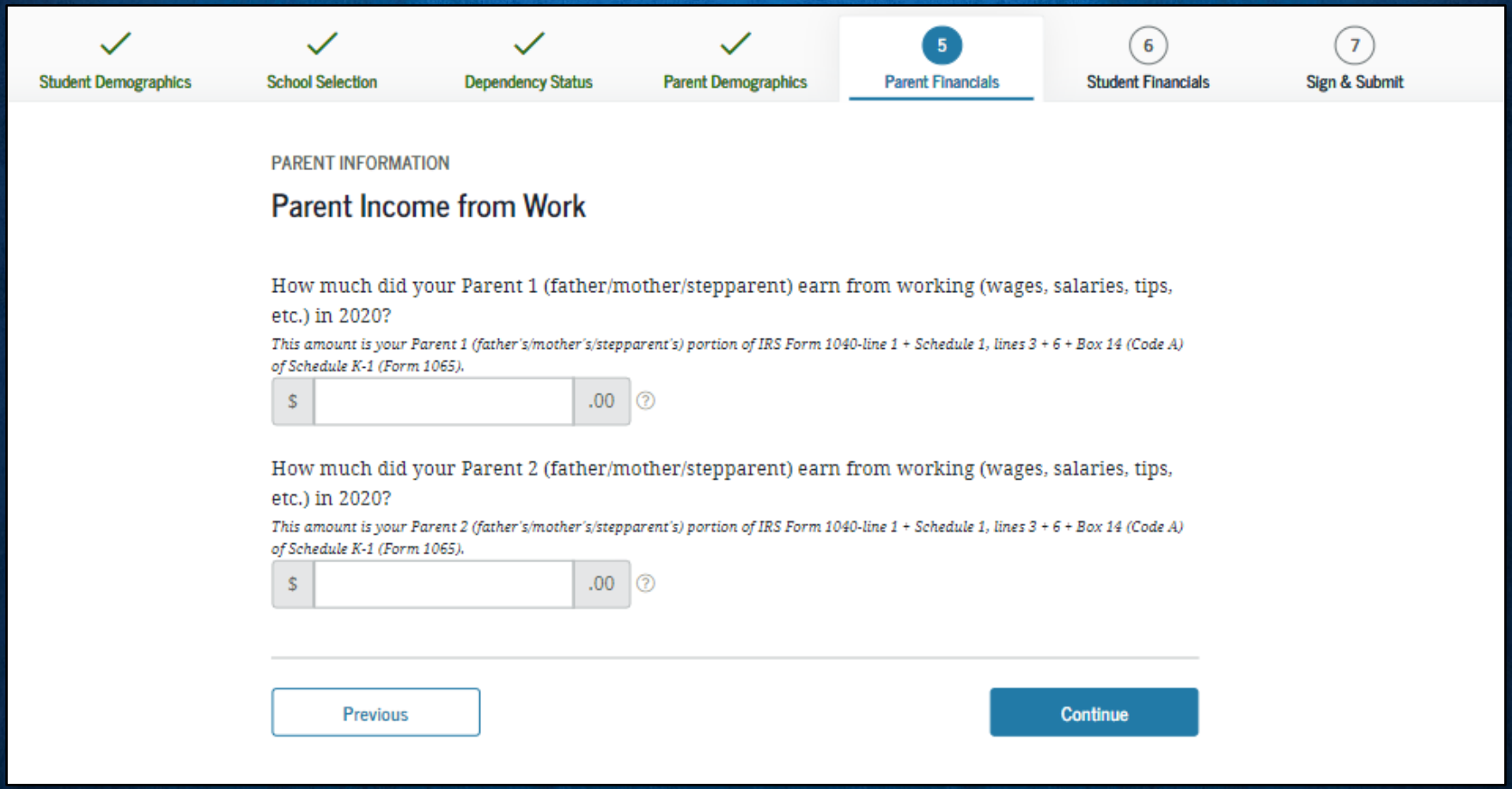
By clicking the "Do Not Transfer" button, you are choosing not to transfer your tax information electronically. Your IRS session will end, and you will return to your FAFSA form.

DO NOT TRANSFER

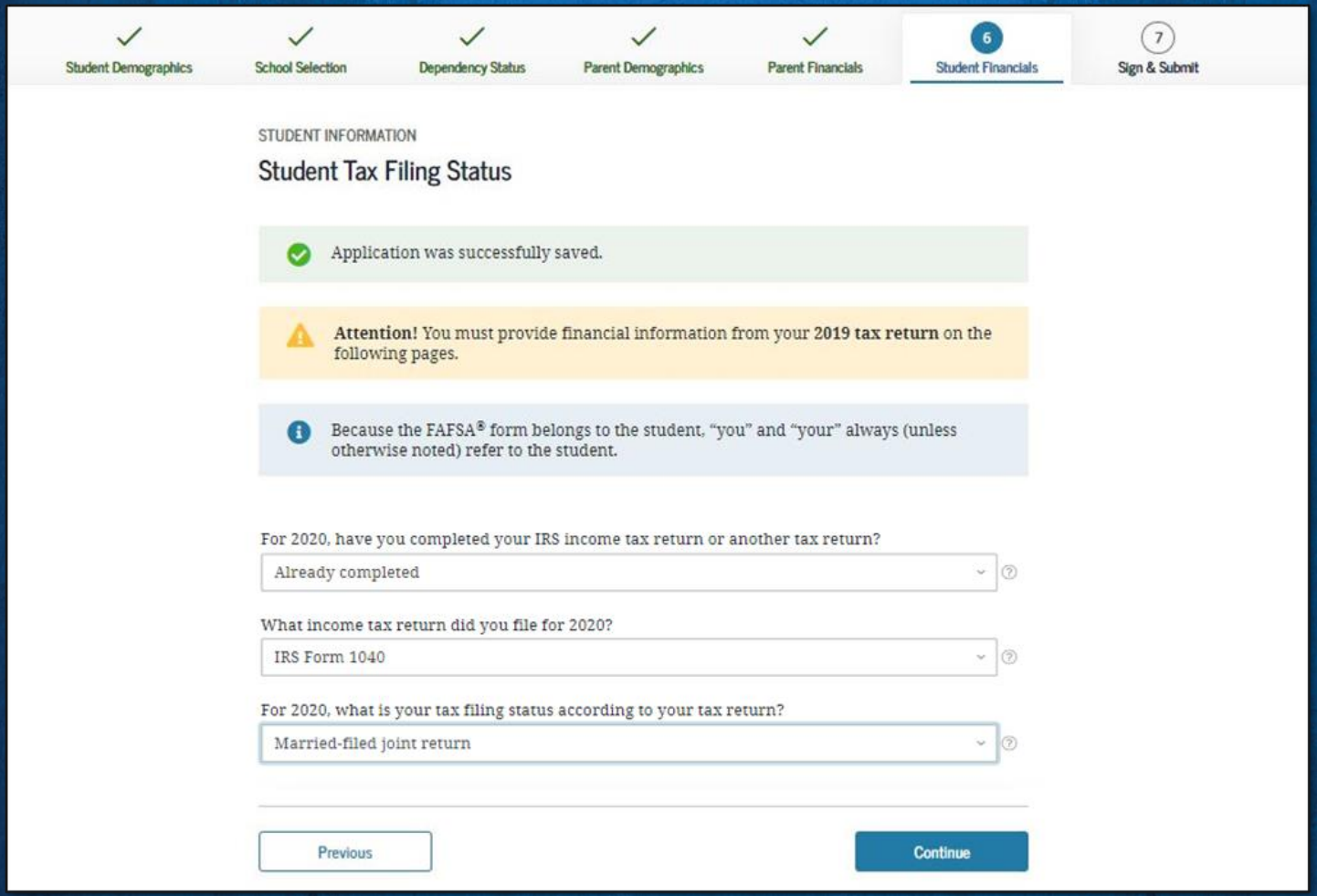
Parent IRS Info



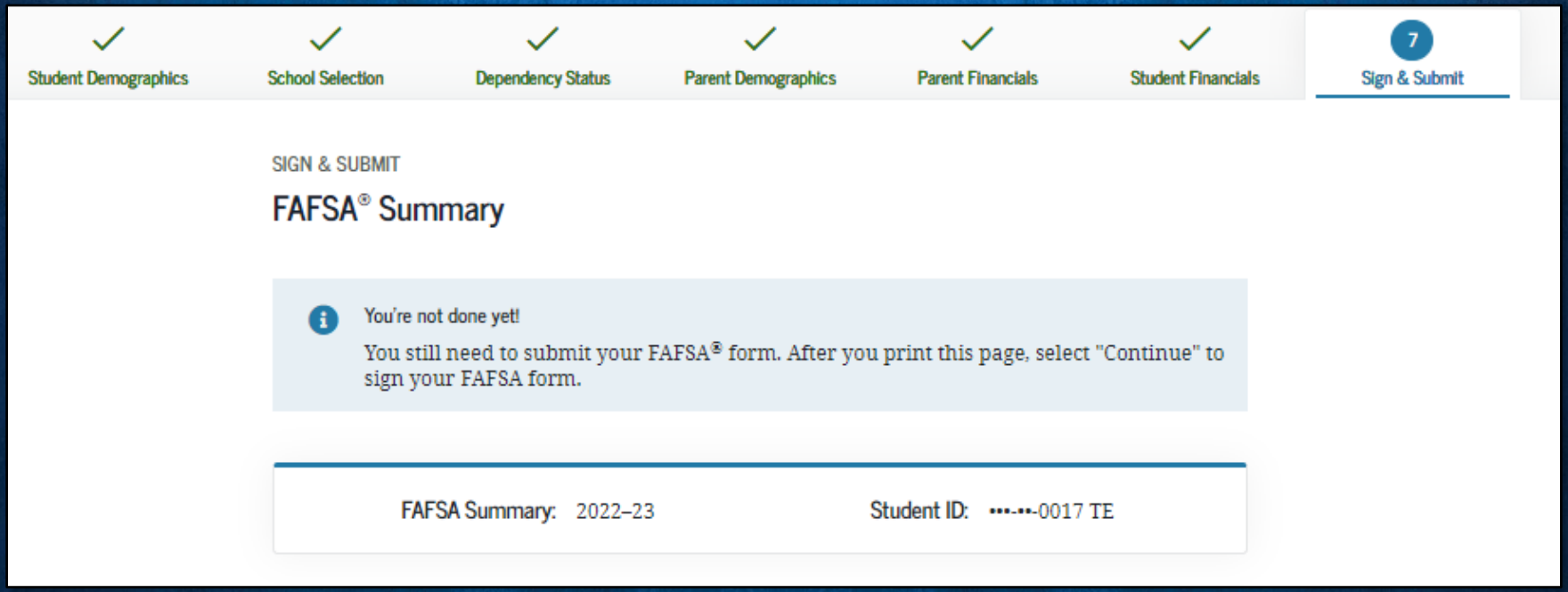
Parent Income From Work



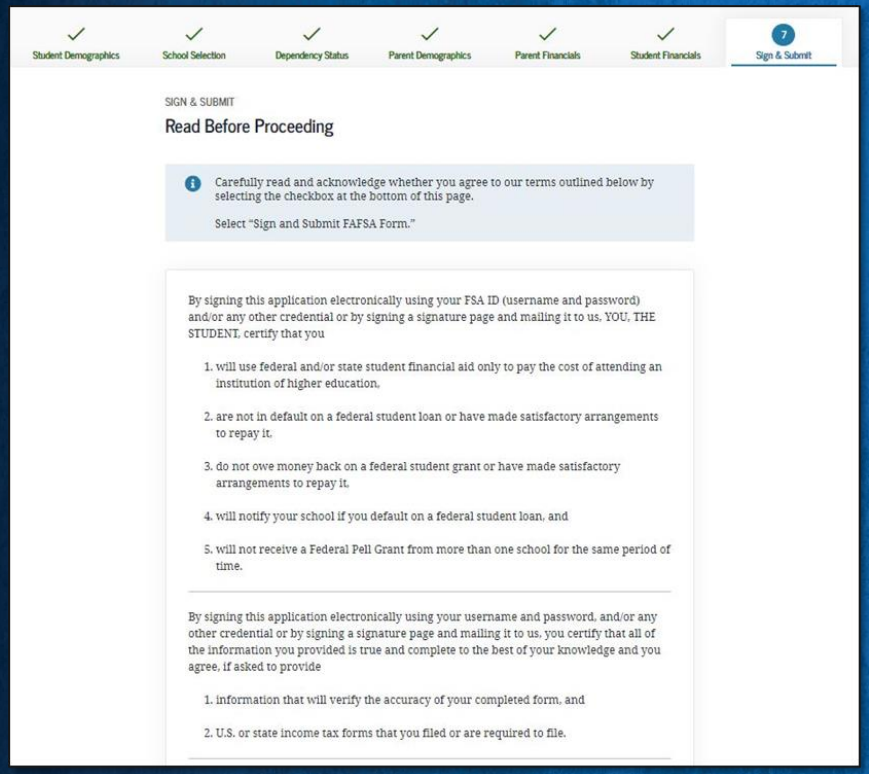
Student Tax Filing Status

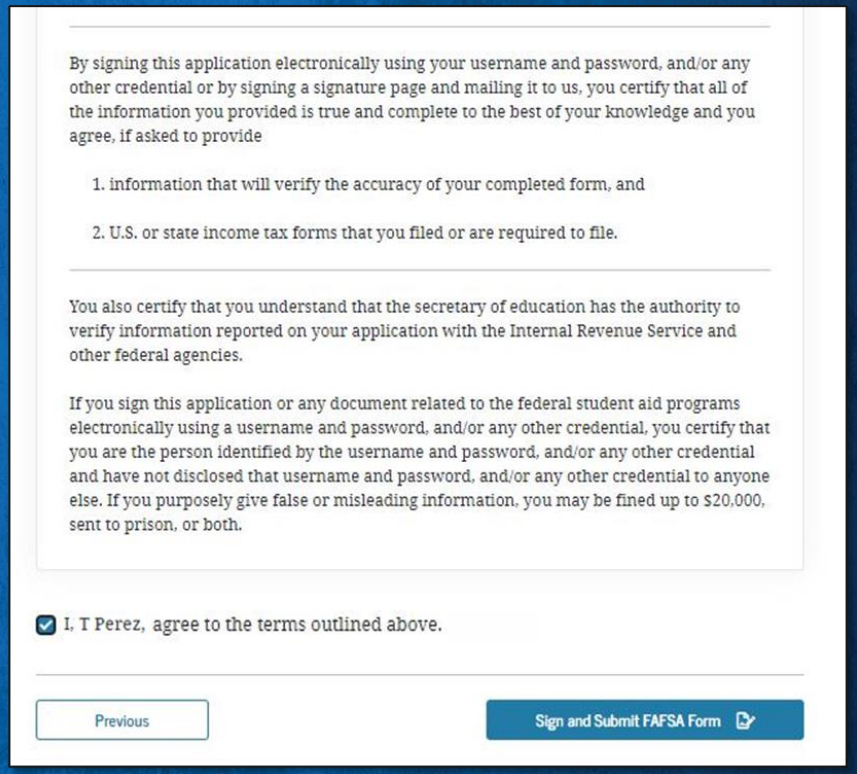


FAFSA Summary

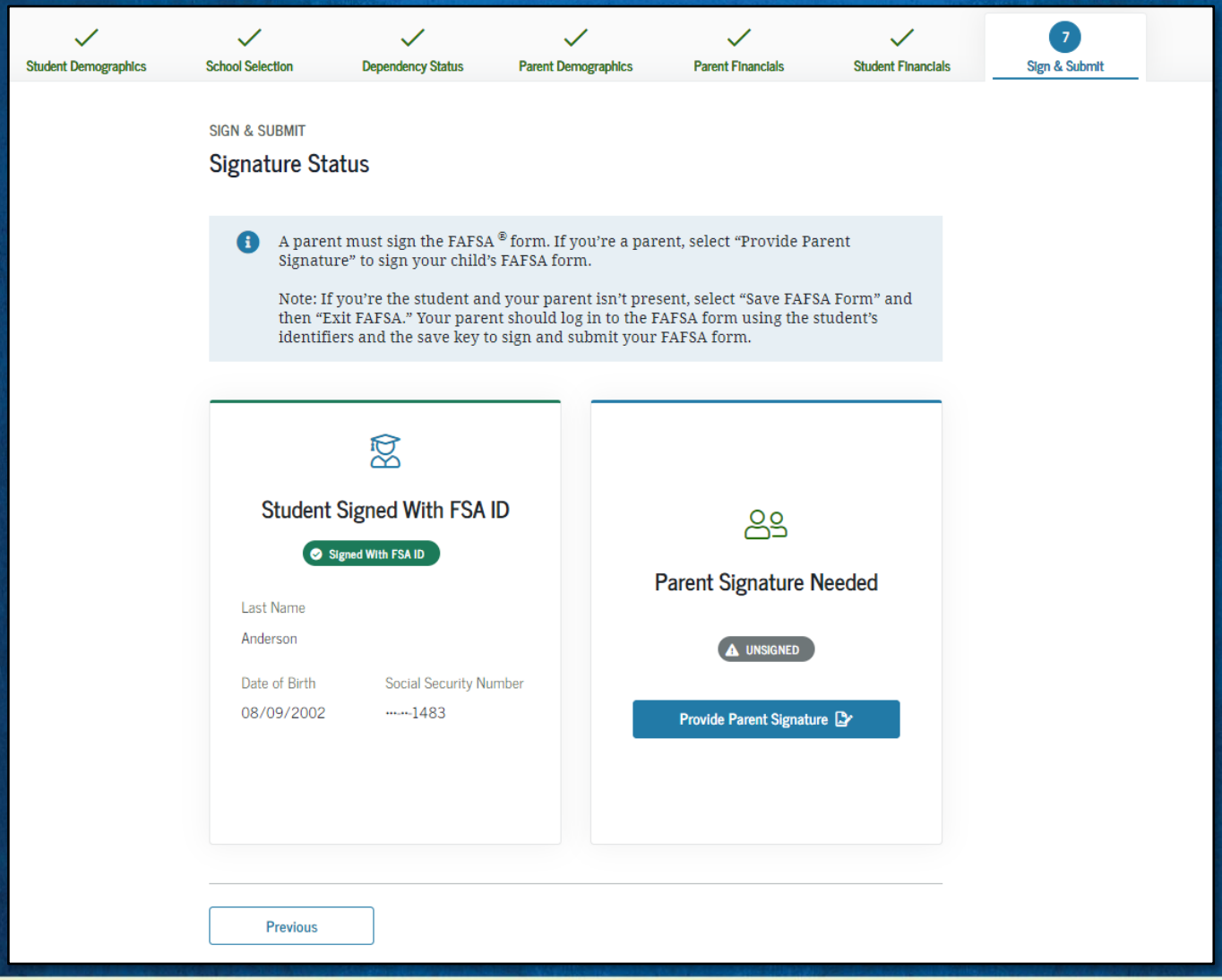


Agreement of Terms

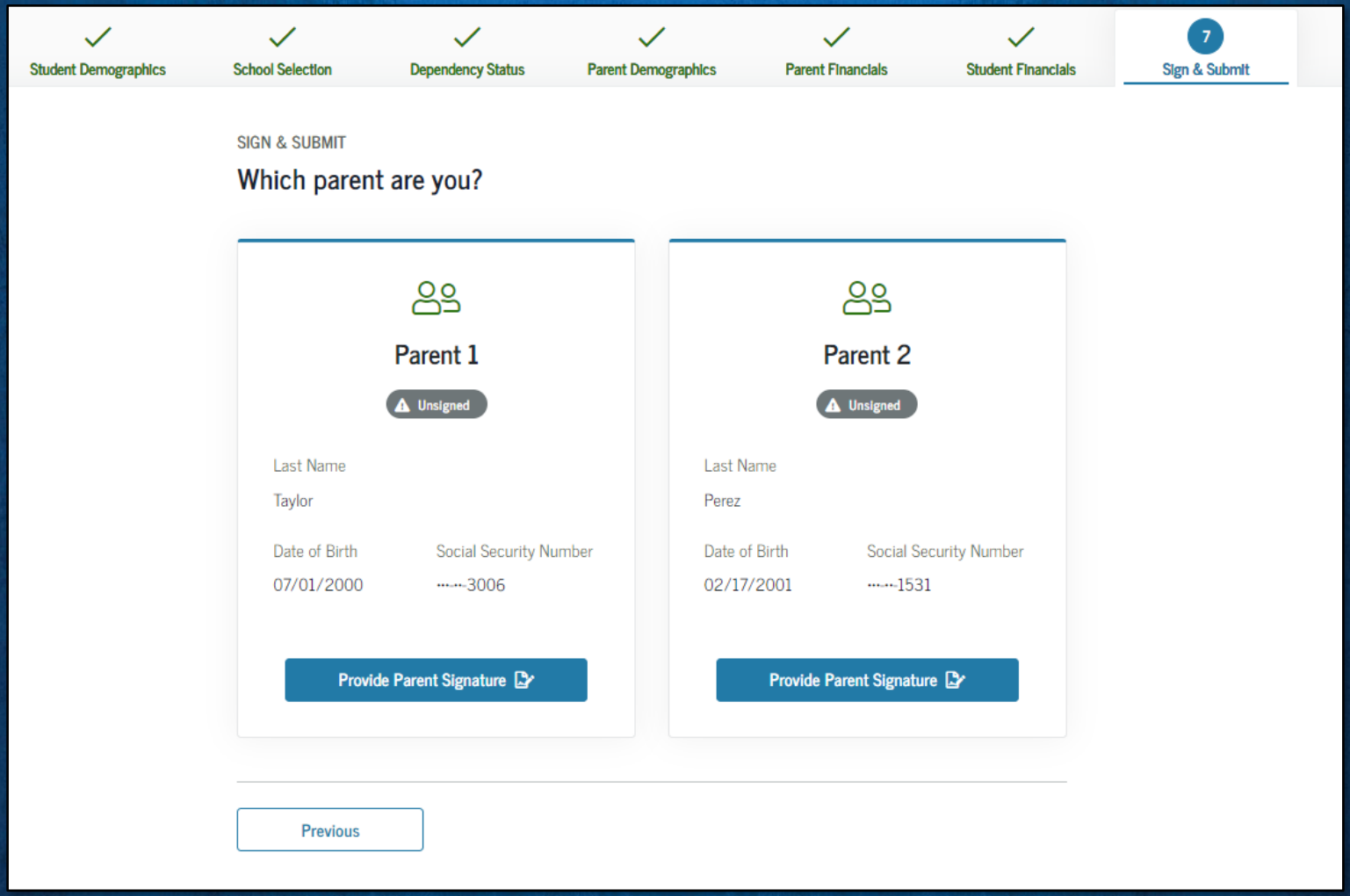




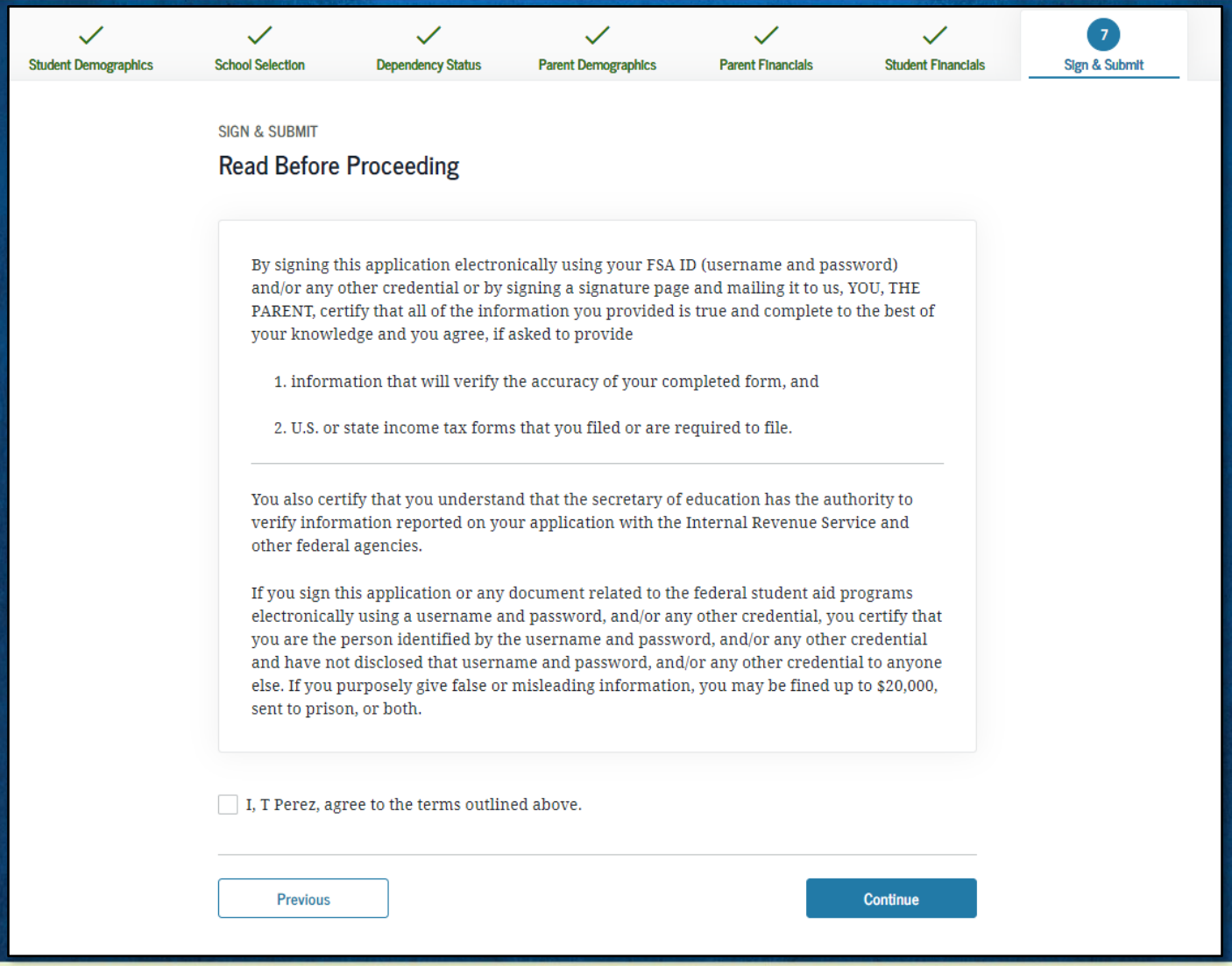
Signature Status



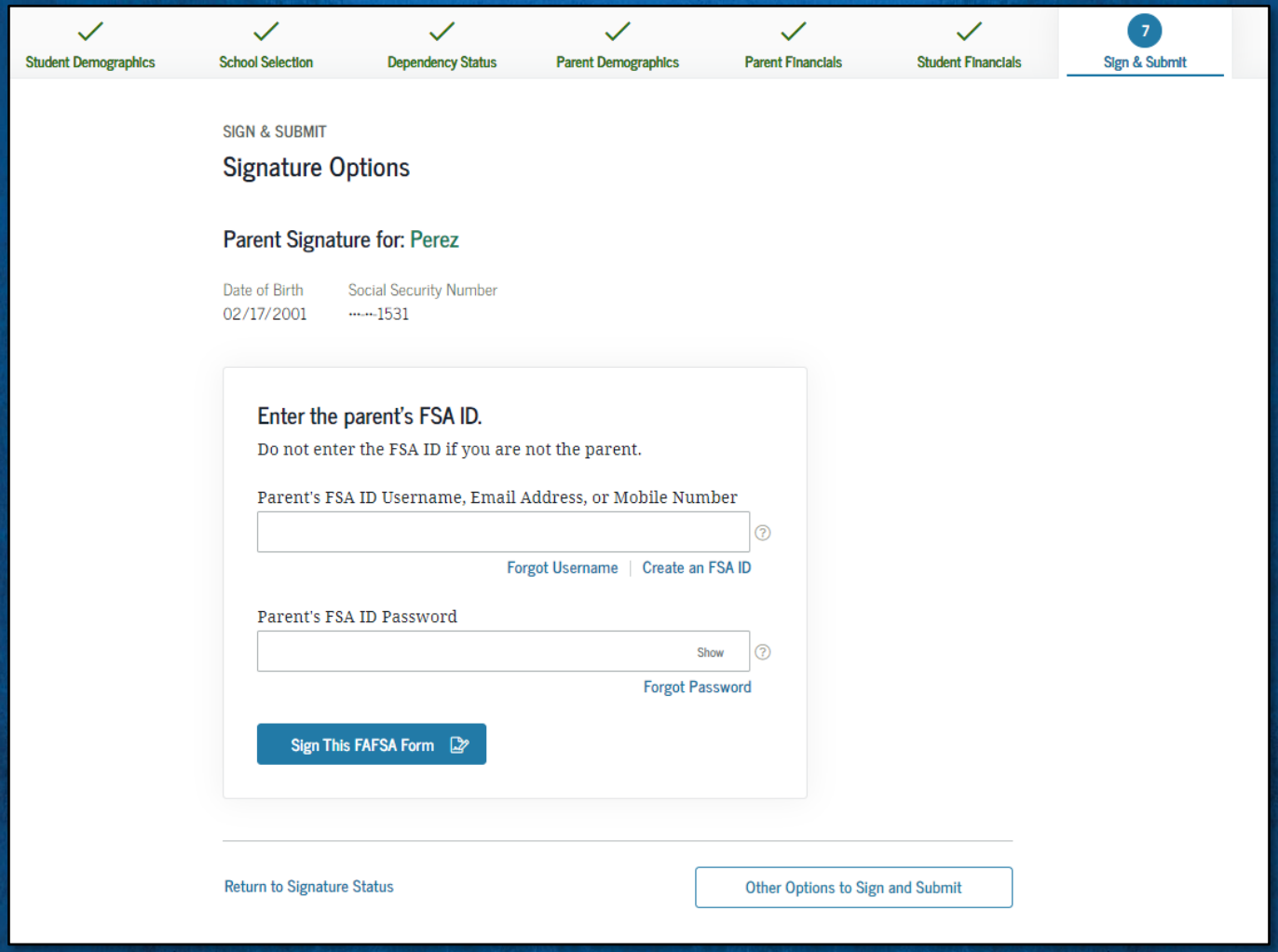
Parent Signature Selection



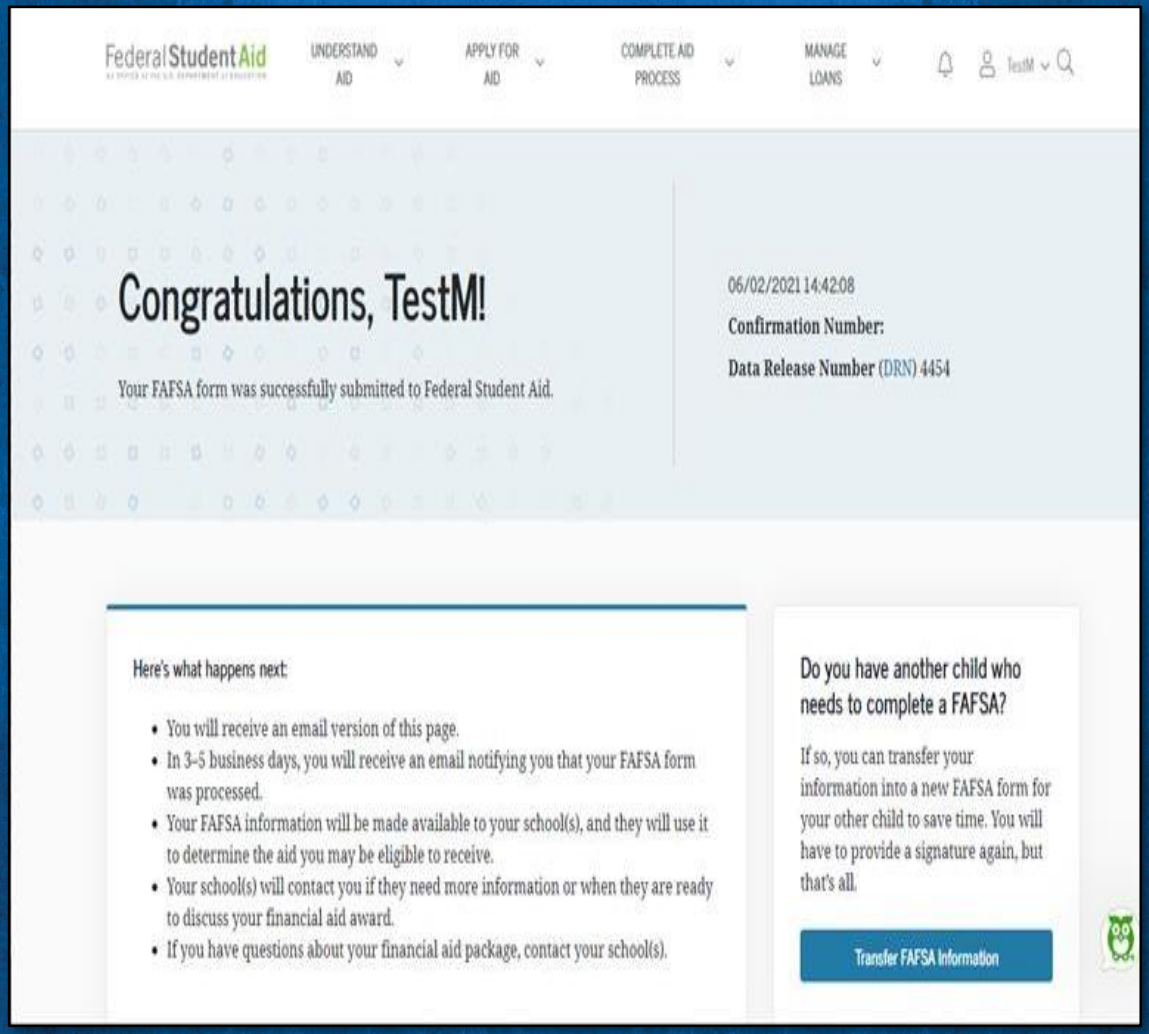
Agreement of Terms - Dependent



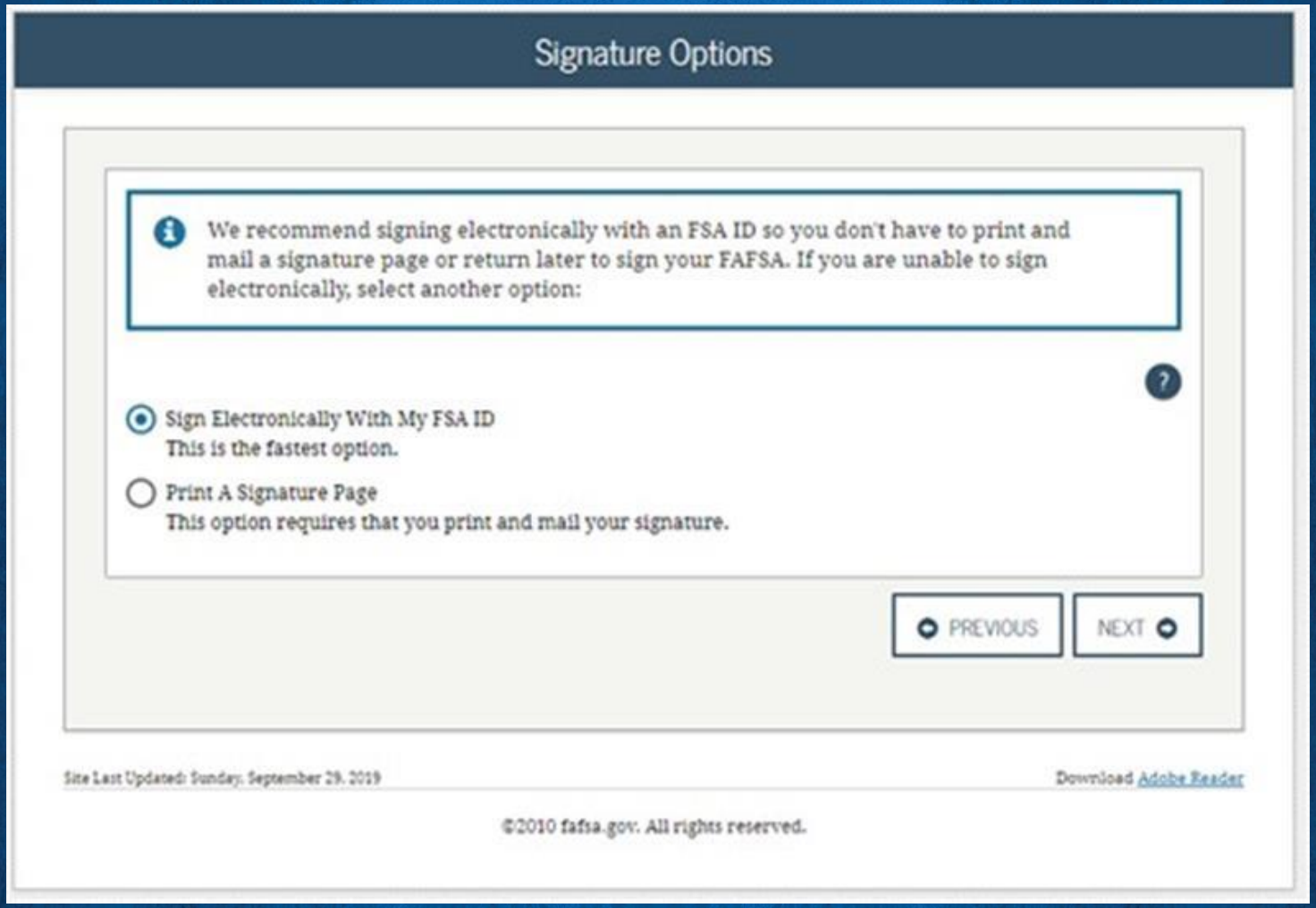
Signature Options



Confirmation Page



Sign & Submit


Signature Options
We recommend signing electronically with an FSA ID so you don't have to print and mail a signature page or return later to sign your FAFSA. If you are unable to sign electronically, select another option:
Sign Electronically With My FSA ID
This is the fastest option.
Print A Signature Page
This option requires that you print and mail your signature.
PREVIOUS
NEXT
Site Last Updated: Sunday, September 29, 2019
Download Adobe Reader
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After the FAFSA

After the FAFSA

After the FAFSA Checklist

1. Review your **Student Aid Report (SAR)**
- After you submit your FAFSA, you will receive a SAR within three days if you submitted your FAFSA online or three weeks if you mailed a signature page. Your SAR is a summary of the information you provided on your FAFSA.
- Your SAR also indicates if you have been selected for verification. If you have, the first thing to do is relax. Then, learn more about the next steps on the back of this checklist.

2. Locate your **Estimated Family Contribution (EFC)**
- Your EFC can be found in the box at the top of the first page of your SAR.
- Your EFC is a measure of your family's financial strength and is calculated according to a formula established by law. This formula considers the following about you (and your parents, if you're a dependent): taxed and untaxed income, assets, benefits (such as unemployment and Social Security), family size and number of family members.
- The EFC determines your eligibility for a Federal Pell Grant as well as other federal and non-federal student aid. Schools use the EFC to determine your federal financial aid eligibility and create your financial aid award letter.

3. Make Corrections **If Needed**
- Once you review your SAR, you may find there is missing data or an error. It is important to contact your college's financial aid office with any questions before making corrections. Corrections can be made by logging on to FAFSA.gov. Note: Any changes to the FAFSA must be signed with the appropriate FSA ID(s) and submitted.
- Your SAR information will be sent to each school listed on your FAFSA. Based on that information, the school may be required to request additional information to correct your FAFSA.

4. Next **Steps**
- The school(s) you applied to, have been accepted to and listed on the FAFSA, will calculate your aid and send you an electronic or paper award letter with how much aid you're eligible for at that school. The timing of when you receive your award letter varies from school to school and depends on when you apply, if any verification requirements have been completed, and how the school chooses to schedule awarding of aid.
- Contact the financial aid office at the school(s) you applied to for more information or if you have any questions about your financial aid.

5. Check your **Emails Often**
- Financial aid offices will primarily communicate through your college email. Make sure to check yours often. Requests for additional, often time-sensitive information, as well as your award letter will be sent via email.

GSFC | Georgia Student Finance Commission

GAfutures.org Explore. Plan. Succeed.

Selected for Verification What's Next?

Being chosen for verification doesn't mean you're in trouble or did something wrong. Verification is simply to confirm the numbers entered on the FAFSA match up with the original documentation. Here are some helpful hints to navigate through the verification process.

1. Contact your **Financial Aid Office(s).**
- If you submitted your FAFSA information to multiple schools, contact each one to determine the documents you will need to provide for verification. Remember, verification is time sensitive and you do not want to miss any deadlines.

2. Gather and/or Complete **Requested Documents.**
- **Tax information**- If you and your parents (if you're a dependent) used the IRS Data Retrieval tool, the Financial Aid Office will most likely not need your tax information. However, if the IRS Data Retrieval tool was not used, a copy of your tax return or tax transcript will be needed. If you or your parents need to obtain copies of tax returns, they can be accessed online at **irs.gov**. For security purposes, you will need your Social Security number, date of birth, filing status and mailing address to access and request your records.
- **W-2s and/or other financial documents**- If you or your parents did not file a return, W-2s or other financial documents (e.g., proof of child support) may be requested.
- **Verification worksheets**- The Financial Aid Office will provide verification worksheets to accompany any requested documents. In some instances, completing and submitting this information will satisfy verification.

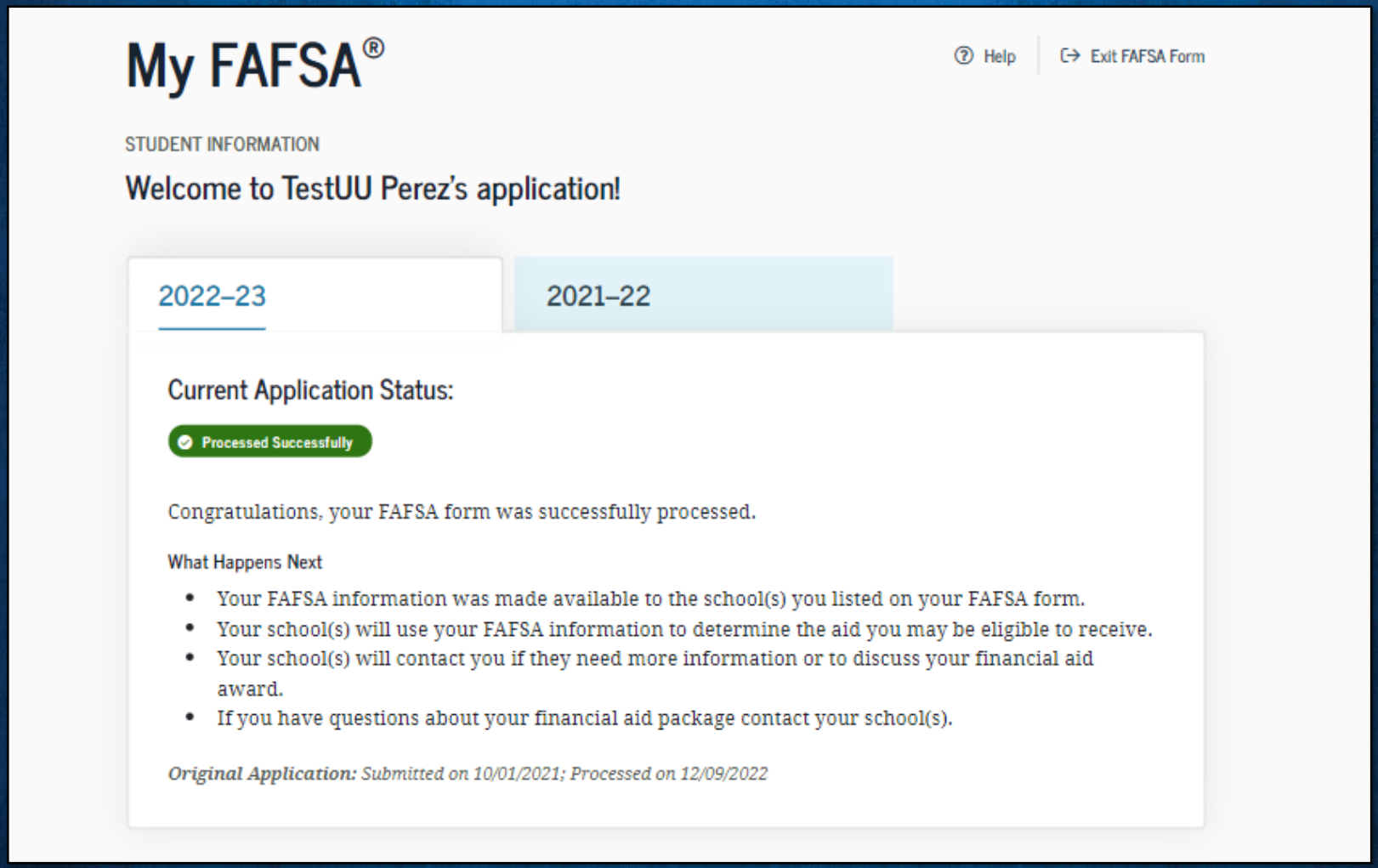
3. Make sure to send in your verification documents **Before Your School's Deadline.**
- Changes to your EFC are rare after you submit your documents for verification, and only occur if your verification materials show a discrepancy from your original FAFSA.
- Need-based institutional aid, such as campus-based and/or state scholarships and grants are time sensitive and are often first-come, first-served. So, submit your verification documents as soon as possible.

4. Follow up on changes to your **Financial Aid Package/Award Letter.**
- Keep in mind there is a chance your EFC could change if verification and the original FAFSA information are vastly different. This difference could either increase or decrease your EFC and change your financial aid package/award letter.
- If there are changes to your financial aid package/award letter, contact your Financial Aid Office to determine how you should move forward.

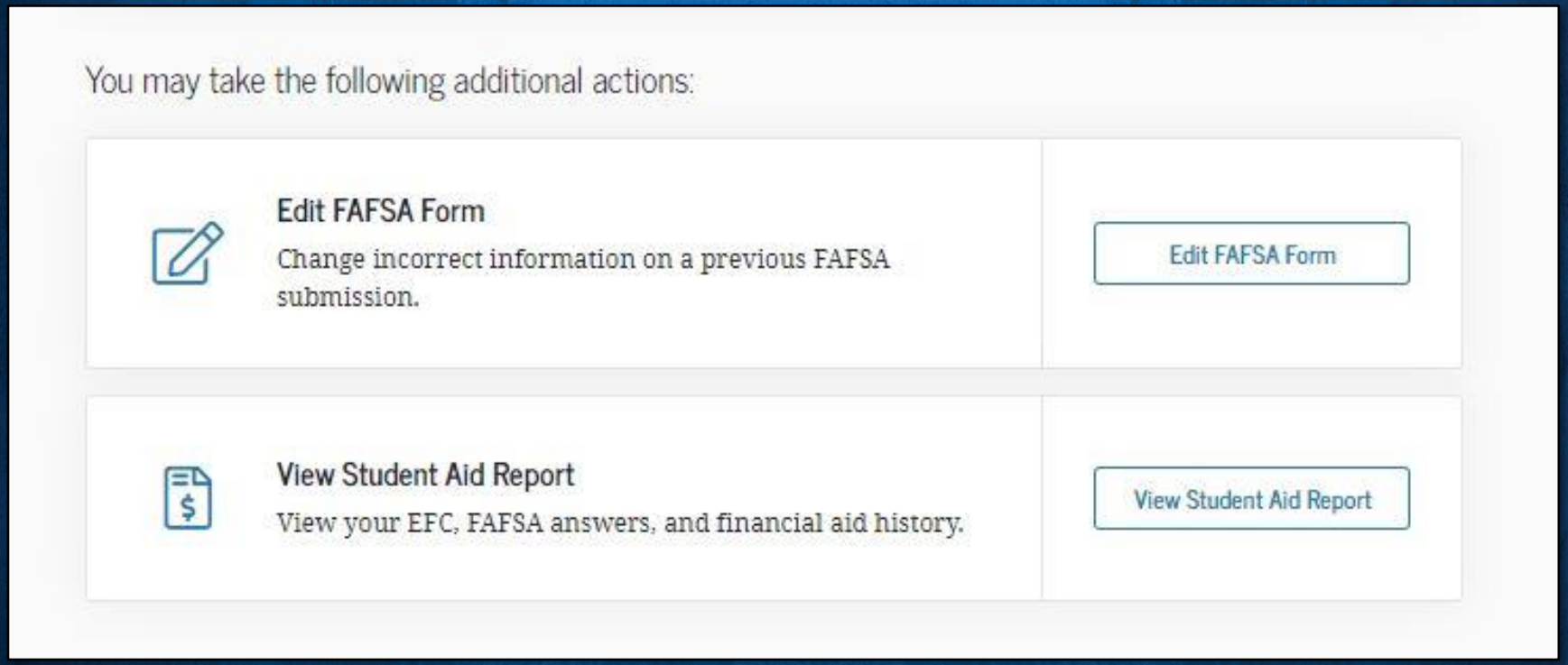
800.505.4732

https://www.gafutures.org/media/vg0pxjtv/after-the-fafsa-2022_digital.pdf

Application Processed Successfully



View the Student Aid Report

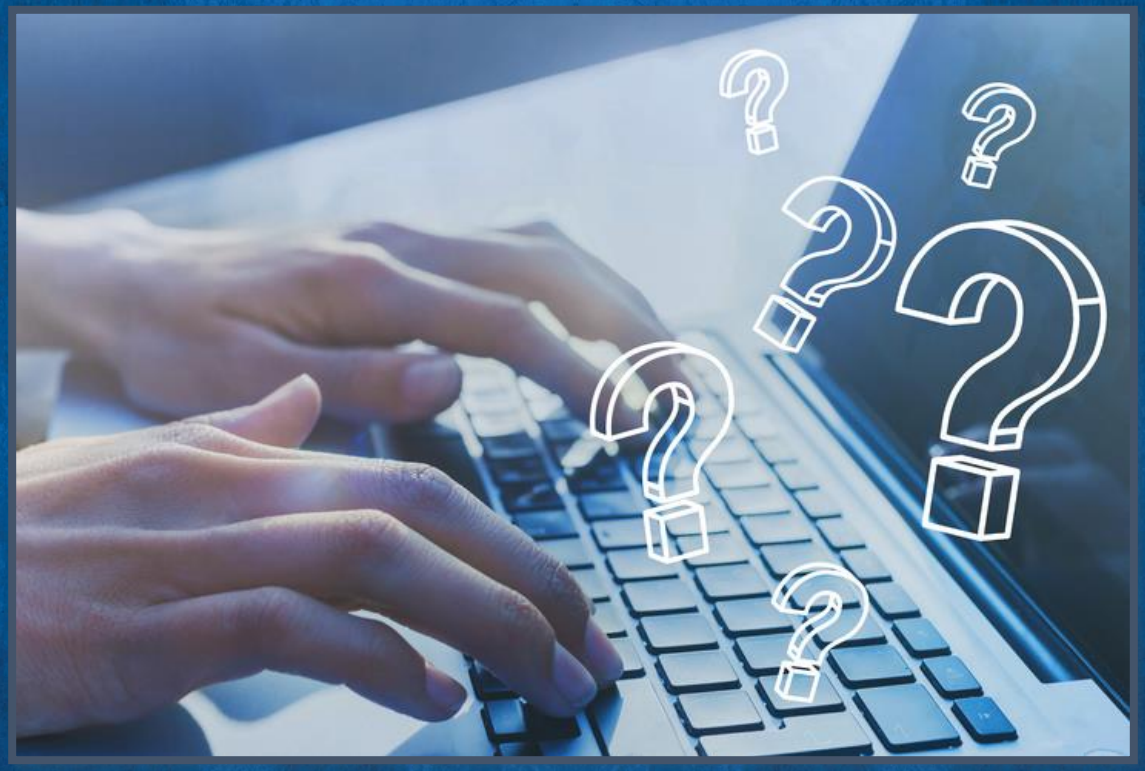


Special Circumstances

Examples of Special Circumstances:

- Change in employment status
- Medical expenses not covered by insurance
- Change in parent marital status
- Unusual dependent care expenses
- Student cannot obtain parent information

Questions?



GSFC Representative Map

Contact your GSFC Representative

Angie Wilson
angiew@gsfc.org
678.495.8101

Katie Minich
katiem@gsfc.org
404.556.0545

Ben Meadows
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Hal Wilkinson
halw@gsfc.org
678.495.8965

Friendly Reminders

- Be social with GSFC
  - Like/Follow us and find tips, resources, event information and much more about planning, preparing and paying for college
- Create a **GAfutures** account
  - Students can check their HOPE GPA and find out more information on eligibility for the HOPE and Zell Miller Scholarship

GAfutures.org
Explore. Plan. Succeed.